

Saturday, 5th April 1958

LOK SABHA DEBATES



(Vol. XIV contains Nos. 31—40)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

83 N.P. (INLAND)

THREE SHILLINGS (FOREIGN)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

8273

8274

LOK SABHA

Saturday, 5th April, 1958.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[Mr. Speaker in the chair]

रेलों में हिन्दी

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*१४५६ { श्री नरेश दर्शन :
 श्री स० च० सामन्त :
 श्री दीनबन्धु परमार :

क्या रेलवे मंत्रों यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) रेलवे मंत्रालय, उद्भक्त अधोनस्य कार्यालयों तथा रेलवे महासंघों में हिन्दी के अविकाधिक प्रयोग में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है; और

(ख) रेलवे कमचार्यों को हिन्दी सिखाने के बारे में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswami): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 116]

श्री रागी : हिन्दी में जवाब दिये ।

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री एस० वी० रामस्वामी):
(क) और (ख). एक बयान लोक-सभा के पटल पर रख दिया गया है । [बेस्लिघे रिकॉर्ड ६, अनुसूच संख्या ११७]

श्री भक्त दर्शन : यह जो विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है इसमें मालूम होता है कि जो धारिभाषिक शब्द हैं, यानी टैकनिकल टर्म्स हैं, उनके बनाने में अभी तक केवल 'ए' से 'एच' तक का काम पूरा हुआ है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस बारे में कुछ सेजी लाने का विचार किया जा रहा है ताकि यह काम जल्दी पूरा हो सके ?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Comments and suggestions on the provisional Hindi equivalents have been invited from the State Governments. About 2,500 engineering terms have been examined so far and the whole thing is being progressed.

श्री नरेश दर्शन : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि रेलवे के मातहत गो करोड़ दस लाख कमचारी हैं उनमें से कितने ऐसे हैं जो अभीतक हिन्दी नहीं जानते, और क्या इसके लिए कोई कार्यक्रम बनाया गया है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री. (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ):
इसके लिए अलाहिदा नोटिस की जरूरत होगी ।

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the facilities that have been given to the Railway staff for learning Hindi will be available during the office hours or after the office hours.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Generally outside office hours some facilities are given. Paragraph 7 of the statement gives details of Hindi training of railway staff not knowing Hindi.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement we find that the railway codes, manuals etc. are also being brought up in Hindi. May I know whether these railway codes and manuals will also

be brought up in the regional languages for the benefit of class IV employees?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: I do not know how it arises out of this question which is only about Hindi in railways.

Mr. Speaker: It is about the progressive use of Hindi in the railways. The hon. Deputy Minister has said that 2,000 words had been coined. If 2,000 words are going to be used, the hon. Member says that it may be a handicap to those other regional languages.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: We shall examine this position.

Transport System in Assam

1457. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
 Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the steps taken by Government so far to improve the transport system in Assam State?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 117].

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Is it a fact that the present Assam Link Railway is unable to carry all the goods required in Assam and hence they have to be taken by air and therefore they cost much more to the consumers? If so, may I know whether the Government will improve all the other means of transport which will be cheaper?

Shri Raj Bahadur: So far as the capacity of the Assam Rail Link is concerned, it is obvious that, so far as I know, it is not capable of handling the entire volume of traffic. But we have to supplement it by the road transport, river transport and air transport.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: What is the percentage of goods taken to Assam by rail, steamer and air?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I can give only a rough idea of the traffic. I think it is included in the statement also.

Shri Hem Barua: In the statement, there is a reference to inland water transport also. Is it a fact that, in spite of the fact that the export and import trade handled by the steamer companies had been steadily on the increase from year to year, they are not adopting a policy of development by a policy of curtailment on the plea of losses? Has there been some sort of an agitation over that in recent times?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Certain difficulties are there no doubt. We have two rivers systems that serve the interests of Assam: Brahmaputra system and another river Surva Barak systems. On both of them we have got a plan which will cost about Rs. 105 lakhs for development of river transport. By the end of the Plan period, I think we will be enabled to move larger quantities of goods by river.

Mr. Speaker: This question ought not to have been admitted as a starred question: I am giving instructions to the office. How can the steps in all directions—railway traffic, road traffic and air traffic and ropeway traffic—be included? This is only fit to be an unstarred question. Even that I would not allow.

Tonnage of Foreign Trade

*1458. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the tonnage of foreign trade in India at present; and

(b) how much of it is borne by Indian ships?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). According to the 1956-57 figures which are the latest available, cargo to the

extent of approximately 18.16 million tons was handled at the major ports in India in Overseas Trades (including adjacent trades) and that about 18.6 per cent of these cargoes was handled by Indian ships. It is, however, estimated that, in the purely overseas trades of the country, Indian Shipping do not carry more than 5 per cent to 7 per cent of the trade.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any attempt is being made to step up the carriage of cargo by Indian ships in this kind of trade? For instance, has there been any improvement in 1957-58 and 1958-59?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member must refer to the statistics available in the Library on the subject of sea trade of India. The hon. Ministers need have no hesitation in saying that it is available in such and such book in the Library if ever a question of that kind of is allowed. It could be easily gathered. The tonnage of foreign trade in India cannot be given as on today. The statistics can be given even by the Minister only up to a particular date and that is available in the Library.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I was going to say so, Sir.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Only 1956-57 figures are given. We are in the year 1958.

Mr. Speaker: All right. It can be made available in the Library.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Supposing a Member wishes to raise a discussion on a particular subject, unless he slips in a question, he cannot raise it.

Mr. Speaker: Discussion during the Question Hour?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: There is a particular problem and a Member wishes to discuss that problem in the House. The only method of doing it is first to put in a question. If the answer is not satisfactory, then we raise a discussion. If we should accept your ruling, the Treasury

Bench would have a very comfortable time.

Mr. Speaker: There are other methods of raising a discussion—not in an indirect manner like this. The hon. Member has always got L.I.C. before his mind. That is a different matter. Such matters will always be allowed—not matters of detail like these.

Shri Damani: What is the share of Indian shipping in inter-port trade?

Shri Raj Bahadur: As I said just now, from 5 to 7 per cent of the total.

Procurement of Rice and Paddy in West Bengal

*1459. **Shri Sadhan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Bengal Government have approached the Central Government for assistance for procurement of rice and paddy;

(b) if so, the nature and amount of assistance asked for;

(c) whether any assistance has been sanctioned; and

(d) if so, the nature and amount of such assistance?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (**Shri A. M. Thomas**): (a) to (d). The West Bengal Government had approached the Government of India for an advance of Rs. 4 crores for financing their procurement scheme. A cash credit of Rs. 4 crores from the State Bank of India has been sanctioned.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Is the amount sanctioned as loan; and, if so, may I know whether any interest is to be charged on it?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It has been sanctioned as, so to say, an overdraft, and after the procurement is over the accounts will be settled.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know whether this amount which

has been sanctioned is for the 25 per cent levy which has been imposed by the Central Government under the Essential Commodities Act, or is it an amount in excess of that?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It is for the overall internal procurement; of course, it is now mainly being utilised for purchase under the 25 per cent levy.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that a serious discontent prevails among the people of West Bengal over the procurement policy of the West Bengal Government; and, if so, whether the Central Government has advised the West Bengal Government to appoint a committee to enquire into the matter and find out the truth?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Sir, the matter was discussed in detail on the floor of the House and the Minister also did reply to all the points raised by my hon. friend. The Central Government does not propose to advise the State Government to appoint any committee of enquiry.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In regard to this amount which has been sanctioned, may I know whether any stipulation has been made for the price at which rice is to be procured?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Yes. We have fixed the prices in respect of various districts like Burdwan, Birbhum etc. We have fixed Rs. 19/8 for the fine variety, Rs. 17/4 for the medium variety and Rs. 16/- for the coarse variety. For the District of Dinajpur we have fixed Rs. 19/8 for the fine variety, Rs. 17/4 for the medium and Rs. 16/- for the coarse variety.

Rail-Sea Co-ordination Committee

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*1461. { **Shri Jhulan Sinha:**
Shri Heda:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer

to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1377 on the 19th December, 1957 and state the decisions since taken with regard to the implementation of the other recommendations of the Rail-Sea Co-ordination Committee?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): A statement indicating the present position in regard to the various recommendations of the Committee is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 118.]

Shri Jhulan Sinha: In view of the importance of the subject and the extraordinary delay in the implementation of the recommendations may I enquire how out of the 24 recommendations made by the Committee only six or seven have been accepted and the rest have been under consideration for all this period?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The Committee was appointed as far back as June, 1955. The report was submitted only as late as April, 1957. Out of the 24 recommendations that have been made by the Committee, action has been taken in regard to six of them. They are matters concerning fixation of freight rates and things like that. The most important matter on which action has been taken is with regard to the grant of concessional terms for loans advanced for purchase of ships for operation in the coastal trade. Each one of these recommendations required a decision on policy matters such as reservation of a particular type of traffic or cargo for coastal shipping. Therefore, it will naturally take time, and I think the decisions have been taken reasonably quickly.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: May I know whether road traffic also will be brought under the purview of the Rail-Sea Co-ordination Committee?

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I just refer the hon. Member to the terms of reference of the Committee which say: "Development of coastal shipping on sound lines and need for

avoiding overlapping between two forms of transport".

Shri Heda: In the statement it is said that the Government have decided to start a non-lapsable shipping development fund. May I know whether this fund has started functioning, and, if so, how much it has become so far?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We took a decision only very recently. In the current year I think a provision of Rs. 1 crore has been made for setting up a nucleus of this fund. I think in the course of the Plan period this fund will amount to about Rs. 10 crores which will be available for acquisition of shipping tonnage.

Shri Heda: In view of the fact that about 15 suggestions are still under consideration, may I know whether they are really being considered or this is only another way of saying that they have been safely deposited in cold storage?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Two have not been accepted and the balance 13 are all under consideration. I do not think the inference that they have been consigned to cold storage would be right or would be fair to the Ministry itself.

Shri Tangamani: One of the recommendations is that the Coastal Conference should evolve rationalised sailing schedules with a view to ensuring regular sailings and calls at as many ports as possible. May I know whether such a conference will be called soon?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The recommendation as it is will be given due consideration and a conference, if it is needed, will be called.

Shri Tangamani: I want to know whether such a conference is going to be convened in the near future.

Shri Raj Bahadur: In the statement we have said that the matter is under consideration. I would not like to commit myself before the consideration is finalised.

Movement of Orissa Iron Ore

*1462. **Shri Kumbhar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Orissa Government have represented to the Government of India to spare sufficient number of wagons for quick transport of Orissa iron ore from Jajpur Road Station to Cuttack or Chawdwar Stations and then to export it to foreign country easily through Paradip Port;

(b) if so, how many wagons have been spared for that purpose; and

(c) if none, the reason therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Against a total indent of 49 wagons, full allotment and supplies were made.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Panigrahi: Besides asking for additional wagons, may I know whether the Government of Orissa has asked the Railway Ministry for any other help for moving iron ore from the mines there?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: As far as I am aware, this was the only demand made and that has been met in full. If there are any other demands, I am sure there will not be much difficulty in meeting those demands.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know whether the Government have received any such request from the M.P. Mineral Industries Association or the Madhya Pradesh Government?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: That is a separate question.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Is it not a fact that a request was made for doubling the railway line from Jajpur Road to Cuttack in order to enable the

movement of iron ore to be made more easy?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The hon. Member would appreciate that 49 wagons spread over a period of a month or so is not very heavy traffic. We have been able to meet the traffic quite easily without doubling the line.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: That is not the point. The point is that only 49 wagons were given and only that much material could be moved. Much more material could have been moved if there was double line and more wagons were given.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: There have been no more demands, and there are no outstanding indents.

Shri M. Rampure: May I know whether a similar request has been made by the Government of Mysore?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: That is a separate question.

Mr. Speaker: Did the Mysore Government ask for any help with regard to the movement of iron ore from Orissa? What is this? The hon. Minister has already said that the question relates to iron ore from Orissa. I won't allow questions relating to other States to be put here. All hon. Members can put questions about Orissa iron ore; I have no objection.

Shri Heda: In view of the expansion programme of exporting iron ore from Orissa four new berths are being added to the Visakhapatnam Port. May I know whether the Railway Ministry is taking cognizance of this fact in advance and making adequate arrangements for doubling the lines and more wagon supply?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: Matters relating to ports, generally, have to be dealt with by the Ministry of Transport. We anticipate the traffic and we will make arrangements well ahead.

Indamer Company

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Shri Halder:
*1465. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
 Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Enquiry Committee set up under the chairmanship of Shri R. N. Katju to probe into the affairs of Indamer Company has been received;

(b) if so, its main findings and the action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to find employment for the aero-engineers and workers retrenched by the Indamer Company?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a). Yes Sir, Shri R. N. Katju, who was asked to enquire into the allegations of irregularities on the part of the Indamer Company, has submitted his report.

(b) The Enquiry has revealed that certain irregularities were committed by some of the pilots and engineers of the Indamer Company. The non-Scheduled permit of the Company was not renewed after 28-2-1958. Appropriate action against the employees concerned is being taken by the Director General of Civil Aviation.

(c) It is not the responsibility of the Government to find alternative employment for the workers retrenched by the private companies who hold non-scheduled permits. However, the particulars of the two Aircraft Maintenance Engineers who were retrenched by the Indamer Company have been circulated by the Director General of Civil Aviation to all prospective employers.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that the same set of people who were responsible for this nefarious activity have been allowed to transfer their aircraft in the name of Messrs. Kalinga Airlines;

and, is so, whether this is being done to save these men from punishment?

Shri Mohiuddin: The aircraft of the Indamer Company have either been sold or leased to another company, but that is a private transaction which I think we could not prevent for the fault of some of the employees or some of the members of the company.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the two aircraft engineers Messrs Barin De and M. L. Shome, who gave all information about the nefarious activities of this company have since been provided with alternative employment and, if not, why?

Shri Mohiuddin: In the reply I have mentioned that it is not the responsibility of the Government to provide employment for retrenched personnel of private companies, but still, the Director-General of Civil Aviation has circulated their experience, their qualifications, etc. to prospective employers and we hope that they will get some employment shortly.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Recently, the IAC had offered these two engineers jobs in the airlines of the Indonesian Government. May I know whether that has been done and whether the IAC has any further proposals?

Shri Mohiuddin: I have no knowledge of this offer from the IAC.

Shri Halder: May I know whether any action has been taken against those who were responsible for those irregularities?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The Minister assured the House that necessary action has been taken. May I know what action has been taken?

Mr. Speaker: It was said that some negotiations are going on.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Obviously it is not correct.

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): A report has just been received, and if

any action is necessary it will be taken. It will naturally take some-time.

Death of Student Pilot Saxena

*1466. **Shri Kunhan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry was conducted into the death of pupil pilot K. D. Saxena of the civil aviation training centre at Allahabad on the 5th December, 1957;

(b) if so, what is the result of the enquiry;

(c) whether it is a fact that serious irregularities in the running of the Centre have been brought to the notice of Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) and (b). The air accident which resulted in the death of Shri K. D. Saxena has been under investigation. The report of the investigating officer is expected shortly.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Kunhan: May I know whether it is a fact that the Principal as well as the Medical Officer of the Centre were away at the time of the accident?

Shri Mohiuddin: I do not know whether they were away, or whether they were present. These are small details about which we have no particular information.

Mr. Speaker: The enquiry will disclose all that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: A report may be laid on the Table.

Mr. Speaker: When it comes. Hon. Members are always alert.

I find the hon. Minister Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha, occupying her old seat. She is attracting the attention of all the hon. Members of the House. She may occupy her seat in the Treasury Benches. Next Question.

Damodar Valley Corporation

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*1467. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether complete survey of lands acquired by the Damodar Valley Corporation for the purpose of erecting electricity posts and lines in various parts of the country has been made;

(b) if not, the time it will take to complete the survey of the whole area;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid upto now in regard to the acquired lands; and

(d) if so, the amount paid up to date?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The survey is expected to be completed by the end of 1958.

(c) Compensation has been paid in cases where land acquisition proceedings have been completed.

(d) The information is being collected from the State Land Acquisition officers concerned and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that large areas of forests in West Bengal have been cut down, for erecting the electric posts and putting up overhead lines and, if so, whether any compensation has been paid for that?

Shri Hathi: So far as the question of compensation is concerned, that will be dealt with by the State Govern-

ments. Wherever transmission lines have to be carried through, certain trees have to be cut off in order to get the wires along.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether this acquisition process by the State Governments is taking time and that the compensation which the Ministry wants to pay is being delayed and, if so, may I know what steps are the Government going to take in the matter?

Shri Hathi: So far as the acquisition of land for the erection of transmission lines is concerned, that is not a major problem, because for one tower, it is a question of some 50 or 100 feet or so trees being taken away, especially for the base of the tower. But anyway, so far as the Government of India are concerned, they have received no information that it is being delayed.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any specific arrangement with the landholders is being made for carrying out the work?

Shri Hathi: That is a question to be dealt with by the State Governments.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether the Government have assessed the total amount yet to be paid as compensation?

Shri Hathi: No, Sir.

रेलवे स्टेशनों पर फिल्मों का प्रदर्शन

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*१४६८. { श्री संगण्डा :
श्री मोहन स्वयं :

क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि २४ फरवरी, १९५८ को पूर्व रेलवे प्रशासन ने यह घोषणा की थी कि यात्रियों को सिनेमा की फिल्में दिखाने की व्यवस्था की गई है;

(ख) पूर्व रेलवे के किन किन स्टेशनों पर ऐसी व्यवस्था की गई है; और

(ग) इस योजना पर कितना वार्षिक व्यय होगा?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswami): (a) No announcement as such was made. But on an enquiry made by certain Press Reporters, they were informed that such a scheme had been given effect to on the Eastern Railway.

(b) The stations on the Eastern Railway at which cinema films have so far been exhibited are:—

Gaya, Mogra, Durgapur, Nalhati and Katwar.

(c) The existing projectionists employed to exhibit films to railway staff are also utilised for screening shows to passengers. No additional expenditure to the railway is, therefore, involved, except a negligible amount on contingent expenses and travelling allowance to the projectionists.

St all I read the Hindi answer, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: No.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether such facilities will be extended to every railway zone in the country?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: As and when necessary we shall consider the question.

Shri Goray: How were these railway stations chosen? Why were those particular railway stations chosen?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Naturally because of their importance.

Mr. Speaker: Gaya is a place of pilgrimage.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the documentary films, prepared and published by the Government of India, are going to be on show there, or whether other pictures as well will be shown?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: At present, only those documentaries prepared by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are being exhibited. Perhaps, I might give some of the names

of the films which may enlighten the House.

Mr. Speaker: All that they want is to know is whether they are documentaries produced by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Apart from the documentaries based on the railways and connected with the railways, general documentaries are also being exhibited.

Mr. Speaker: The question is not whether the pictures relate to the railways but whether films of private agencies are shown.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: No, Sir.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether pictures relating to other avenues of our national life are there on show?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: They are not being shown now.

Electric Coaches

*1469. **Shri N. R. Munisamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total requirement of Railway Coaches fitted with self-starting power for 1958-59 and how much out of it is to be imported during 1958-59?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): It is presumed that Hon'ble Member is referring to railcars. If so, it is stated that two (2'-0") Narrow Gauge Diesel Rail Cars have been provided in the Budget for 1958-59. Tenders have not yet been called for these Railcars.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know whether it is under the contemplation of the Government to provide such railway coaches with the self-starting improvise along with it, and distribute them in the Southern Railway?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Already, there are some diesel rail-cars operating in the Southern Railway.

Manufacture of Electric Railway Coaches

1471. { Shri N. R. Munisamy:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:

Will the Minister of Railways
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of component parts required for the manufacture of electric railway coaches are manufactured in India;

(b) if so, what is the present position in this respect;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make India self-sufficient in the manufacture of electrical railway coaches; and

(d) when is this self-sufficiency likely to be attained?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) to (d). Initial order of 104 EMU coaches has been placed on an indigenous firm to gradually develop the manufacture of mechanical parts over a course of five years. Indigenous manufacture of electrical gear will be considered by the Heavy Electrical Industries, Bhopal.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know whether the Indo-British firm which is working in Dum Dum has entered into a contract to supply railway electric coaches to the Eastern Railway and, if so, what is the percentage of the parts that are to be imported from other countries?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: We have placed orders for 104 EMU units with Messrs Jessops of Calcutta.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I know whether this order for electric multiple units was placed on Jessops in 1955 and may I know how many units have been delivered so far?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: According to the terms of the contract, the supplies were to begin from November, 1957 and end in October 1959. So far we have not received any supplies, but the firm feels confident that before the last date, they will complete the delivery.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know within what year we can have this self-sufficiency after coming into existence of the heavy plant machinery at Bhopal?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister is not in charge of the Bhopal plant.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: That is also being controlled by the Central Government.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister will say it is not in his department.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether any attempt is being made to manufacture some of the components of these coaches at the Perambur Coach Factory?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: So far only this firm has been entrusted with this work and they have been commissioned to produce these parts indigenously as much as they can.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: How is it that we are not even making any attempt to manufacture some of the components? After all, we want it to be done in the public sector.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: If we feel that there is any necessity for it, we will certainly look into that matter. But so far they have not started coming in here and they have not manufactured these parts. We feel that the firm which has been entrusted with the work will be able to cope up with it. If there is any need for any additional components, we will certainly look into it.

Punctuality of Trains on Eastern Railway

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*1472. { Shri Ghosal:
Shri B. Das Gupta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any improvement in running time of the suburban trains of the Eastern Railway after electrification; and

(b) if so, what?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswami): (a) Yes.

(b) The Howrah-Bandel Local trains which are scheduled to stop at all stations have been accelerated by 19 minutes and those which are not scheduled to stop at all stations by 11 to 16 minutes.

Shri Ghosal: What is the number of electric trains and the ordinary trains running at present?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: The number? I am sorry I have not got the figures; if a separate question is put, I shall give them.

Shri B. Das Gupta: May I know whether there is any improvement in the running time of the steam trains in the Howrah as well as in the Sealdah division?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: I can only give some figures with regard to the punctuality of performance of the suburban trains of the Howrah division. For the months of December 1957, January 1958...

Mr. Speaker: Are they steam engines?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Steam engines and electric engines; I am giving the comparative figures for December 1957, January, 1958 and February, 1958. For steam, the percentage of suburban trains not losing time to the total number of trains for December, 1957 is 61.9 and for electric it is 63.8. For January 1958, the percentages are

74.8 for steam and 83.7 for electric. For February, 1958 the percentages are 70.3 for steam and 88.1 for electric.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Cannot this information be found in the library?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I will not allow such kinds of interruptions. The hon. Member is a senior Member here. That is an aspersion against me. It is I who say that I cannot allow any references to any questions being put and even if they are put here inadvertently, it is open to the Minister to say that the material is available in the library. It is open to the hon. Minister to say that. Let the hon. Member think over it. He is a professor also; I do not think he would advise any of his students to follow his example so far as such matters are concerned. It is not right. As many as 14 States are trying to follow your example.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I am sorry.

Mr. Speaker: I am sure the hon. Member never meant it seriously.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: I might add that punctuality was seriously affected by the work of electrification, which affects the efficiency of the control circuits. But the things are improving very rapidly.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Just now the hon. Minister read out some comparative percentages. May I know whether the percentage of trains not losing time is the same as the percentage of trains which arrive in right time?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: I have got only these figures; the figures my friend wants are not here.

Shri Rampure: May I know what steps were taken to improve the punctuality of trains?

Mr. Speaker: Punctuality is there.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Whatever measures are necessary are taken—to improve the signalling, to speed up the trains so that they may be quick and on time.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members know that all these steps must have been taken before the hon. Deputy Minister came into office.

Shri B. Das Gupta: In view of the fact that the passenger traffic is heaviest in the Sealdah division, may I know whether the diesel engine will improve the timing or not?

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: Electric trains are far superior to the diesels and I am sure electrification will improve it.

An Hon. Member: That is not the question.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The hon. Member knows that the scheme for electrification of Sealdah division has also been approved and as soon as circumstances permit and the material is available we will start the electrification of the Sealdah division.

Shri B. Das Gupta: My question is, it is found always that the trains are late and there is harassment of the passengers and the trains are detained. Now, until the electrification is affected, till that time...

Mr. Speaker: I cannot allow a lecture or debate on this. Let him put the question straight.

Shri B. Das Gupta: I want to know whether the replacement of the diesel engine will improve matters or not, because...

Mr. Speaker: No question of 'because'.

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: There is no doubt that the introduction of diesel engines would improve matters. But the hon. Member is aware that diesel locomotives are not produced in the country and that involves an element of foreign exchange; we are trying to avoid that.

Shri B. Das Gupta: Diesel engines are in use in the Gaya division.

Mr. Speaker: Diesel engines are not manufactured; they may be used.

Shri Dasappa: May I know what facilities the railway authorities have provided for passengers who miss the trains at the junction?

Mr. Speaker: He is going from one thing to the other. Next question.

Shri Dasappa: In U.K. they have run a special train for a single passenger.

Shri Feroze Gandhi rose—

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry; I looked at the hon. Member, but he did not rise.

An Hon. Member: He did rise.

Mr. Speaker: Not now, after I have called the next question.

Indigenous System of Medicines

*1474. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme for developing the indigenous medicines like the Siddha form;

(b) the help given for the development of the same;

(c) whether any proposals were received in this regard from the Madras Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) and (b). In the scheme included in the Second Five Year Plan for the development of Ayurveda including Siddha, Unani, Homoeopathy and Nature Cure Systems Central assistance is given on the following basis:

(1) Grant in aid to meet the recurring cost of maintenance of research beds in selected institutions for approved research schemes at the rate of Rs. 2000 per bed per annum.

(2) Grant-in-aid for *ad hoc* research schemes on merits of each scheme.

(3) Grants in aid for improving the existing teaching institutions and for the establishment of new teaching institutions in States 75% of the non-recurring expenditure (including the cost of expansion of college buildings) subject to a ceiling and 50% of the recurring expenditure on the College (and not the hospital) for the period of the Second Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d). A proposal was received from the Government of Madras for financial assistance for research in Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani Systems of Medicine at the College of Integrated Medicines, Madras. A grant of Rs. 20,000 has been sanctioned for 1957-58 to the State Government for 50 research beds at Rs. 2000 per bed per annum out of which 30 beds are intended for research in Siddha System on the following diseases:

Swasa (Bronchial Asthma)

Kasam (Bronchitis)

Keelvayu (Multiple Rheumatoid Arthritis)

Sarma Noi (skin diseases excluding leprosy)

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether the Madras Government had submitted a scheme as early as 20th February, 1957, for the development of the Siddha form of medicine in the Research Department of the Institute in Madras, demanding Rs. 2 lakhs as recurring expenditure during the Second Plan period and, if so, whether Government have considered that proposal.

Shri Karmarkar: The action that we have taken is after considering the proposal of the Madras Government. The other scheme must be just on its way; I am not sure.

Shri Tangamani: But that was sent on 20th February, 1957. A comprehensive scheme has been submitted to the Government of India

and I have got a copy of the scheme with me.

Mr. Speaker: We cannot go into it. Was that also taken into account while allotting Rs. 30,000? The hon. Minister will look into it.

Shri Karmarkar: If it is addressed to us, we shall consider it.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether the Government is aware of the new college that is going to be set up in Tanjore for the development of the Siddha form of medicine and, if so, what financial assistance Government propose to give to them?

Shri Karmarkar: Regarding assistance, we shall have to consider it. If there is a scheme, I wish it all god-speed.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that help and encouragement to indigenous systems of medicine are proposed to be given till allopathy is fairly well spread and developed in this country?

Mr. Speaker: That is a general question.

Shri Thimmalah: May I know the procedure followed by the Government while giving financial assistance to institutions for the development of indigenous medicine?

Shri Karmarkar: The applicant applies to the State Government. Then it is forwarded to us. When it reaches us, we consider it. If it is proper, we make the grant; if not, we do not make the grant.

Shri Achar: May I know the total amount spent during the first two years or to date for the development of indigenous system?

Shri Karmarkar: During the year 1956-57 grants-in-aid sanctioned for indigenous systems of medicine, as also Homoeopathy, I find, was Rs. 6,25,000 and during the year 1957-58 it was about Rs. 10,08,084*.

Shri Achar: Are they mere grants or have they been spent?

Shri Karmarkar: They are grants that we have made and we stick to them. Whether they are completely spent or not, we shall have to refer and find out.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether the Government propose to increase the allotment that is made in the Second Plan, namely, Rs. 2.54 lakhs for the entire Plan period for the development of Siddha form of medicine?

Shri Karmarkar: A provision of Rs. 1 crore has been made to aid ayurveda, unani, homoeopathy, nature cure, siddha form and such other indigenous systems. When we receive proposals from the States we look into the matter and see whether we can give them any possible aid. In fact, we would like to do much better if proper schemes are received from the State Governments.

Shri Tangamani: Now Rs. 2½ lakhs have been allotted to Madras. Will there be any enhancement?

Shri Karmarkar: We shall see that the claims of Madras State are honoured fully as early as possible. My colleague, the Madras Health Minister is fully satisfied with the progress that we have made in respect of aid to Madras State.

Looting of a Goods Train

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*1475. { **Shri A. S. Saigal:**
Shri Assar:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a goods train was looted by a gang of wagon lifters on Monday, the 17th March, 1958 near Kiul on the down line of the Dinapur Division of the Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the loss involved; and

(c) whether any persons have been arrested in this connection?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) A theft took place in a running Goods train near Kiul on 17th March night in which two wagons were tampered with and bags of garlic, mustered seeds and rape seeds were thrown out. This was noticed and the train stopped and backed and a number of bags which were lying near the track were recovered.

(b) It was found that two bags of garlic were short in one wagon. The other wagon contained rape seed bags and the actual number short is being ascertained as there was no guidance slip giving full details.

(c) None so far. Investigation is proceeding.

सरदार भ० लिंगू सहगल : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इसकी इन्वेस्टिगेशन करने में आप कितना समय लेंगे और उसकी पूरी रिपोर्ट को क्या आप इस सदन के सामने भी रख सकेंगे ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : उसका इन्वेस्टिगेशन हम नहीं करेंगे बल्कि जी० आर० पी० और स्टेट पुलिस करेगी, रही उसके खत्म होने की बात तो वह तो हालात के ऊपर इसका दारोमदार है कि वे कब खत्म कर सकेंगे। घामतीर पर ऐसी रिपोर्टें सदन की मेज पर नहीं रखी जाती हैं।

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Will Government consider the question of stationing armed patrol on these stations to act as a deterrent against looting?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: I like to inform the hon. Member that this train was actually accompanied by an armed guard of the RPF. As soon as they detected a bag falling out, they pulled the chain, stopped the train and ran to stop and catch the culprits. But

as it was after mid-night, the culprits slipped away into the nearby jungle and, unfortunately, they could not be caught.

Shri Sonavane: What other steps are being taken by the Government to prevent such loss of property?

Mr. Speaker: We are going into the case of a single train where there was armed guard. In addition to that, shall we have a general discussion?

Shri Sonavane: There are several thefts and looting of goods trains not only in this line but in several other lines also.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Next question.

Central Arecanut Committee

*1476. **Shri Warior:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 925 on the 26th August, 1957 and state whether the Government have taken any decision to shift the offices of the Central Arecanut Committee from Kozhikode to Mysore?

The Minister of Co-operation (Shri F. S. Deshmukh): The reply is in negative.

Shri Basappa: In view of the fact that more facilities are available in Mysore and the quantity of arecanut produced in Mysore is more, may I know whether the Committee has taken a decision that it should be transferred to Mysore?

Dr. F. S. Deshmukh: Except the member from Kerala, the Sub-Committee did come to the decision to transfer the headquarters to Mysore.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: Is it not a fact that the production of arecanut is the largest in Kerala State?

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members are arguing between Kerala and Mysore.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: It is a fact.

Shri Punnoose: May I know whether the Secretary of this Committee hails from Mysore and that is one of the reasons for its transfer?

Starvation Deaths in Bihar

*1477. **Shri Anirudh Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several deaths due to starvation have taken place in the Sadar and Madhubani Sub-divisions in Darbhanga District in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to avert further deterioration of the situation?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह: क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार को विश्वास है कि बिहार के प्रकाल पीड़ित और भगवानस्त क्षेत्रों में जिस गति से रिलीफ का काम चलाया जा रहा है उससे आगे आने वाले संकटपूर्ण महीनों में मुसलमानी से जनता को बचाया जा सकता है?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Some relief measures have been adopted by the State Government. They are distributing free grains to indigent and sick persons. Those who can do manual work, they are provided with work. For those who are unemployed but are not physically fit for manual labour, light manual labour is provided. About Rs. 13.6 lakhs have been distributed to needy cultivators as loans. 234 tube-wells have been sunk. 700 village-type medicine boxes have been distributed. These steps are being taken on its own responsibility by the State Government. We will provide all help that is possible.

With regard to the supply of food-grains, there is no difficulty. There are adequate stocks in Bihar.

श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि बिहार फैमिन एंड फ्लड रिलीफ फंड एक्ट के मुताबिक कितने भूखे, लंगड़े, मूले और दूसरे प्रकार के अपाहिजों को राशन दिया जा रहा है? उनको संख्या कितनी है?

Shri A. M. Thomas: As far as I know, 721 such schemes are running, involving an expenditure of Rs. 16 lakhs.

Shri Anirudh Sinha: I want to know how many indigent people are getting free rations out of the Bihar Flood and Famine Relief Fund?

Shri A. M. Thomas: I do not know the exact number of people getting free rations. But there are as many as 721 projects. The schemes that are running will involve an expenditure of Rs. 16 lakhs.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any case of starvation death has been enquired into and, if so, whether the agency employed for enquiring into these deaths is the official or non-official organisation?

Shri A. M. Thomas: All the reported cases have been enquired into by official agencies of the State Government with the help of non-official organisations and they have found that all of them are baseless.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether the result of the enquiry was that there was no death or that there was no starvation death and if the result was that there was no starvation death, what was the death ascribed to?

Shri A. M. Thomas: There has not been any starvation death.

Mr. Speaker: Maybe due to various causes.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: The point is that some deaths were reported. I want to know whether the enquiry revealed that there were no such

deaths or that they were not due to starvation. That is my question. If they were found to be not due to starvation, what were they found to be due to?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Whether several deaths have taken place due to starvation is a general question. If the hon. Member could refer to a specific instance, we could say 'yes' or 'no' or give the cause of death.

Shri Hem Barna: I will refer to a specific instance.

Mr. Speaker: This relates to Bihar.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: As the hon. Minister has said that non-official organisations enquired into the causes of the deaths, may I know the name of the non-official organisation, which enquired into it?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Whenever specific cases have been brought to the notice of the State Government, they have been enquired into. In fact, Members representing that area, both in the Parliament as also in the Assembly, have been taken into confidence and then the enquiry has been held.

Mr. Speaker: Next question—Shri Rameshwar Tantia.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: One four eight zero. (1480).

Timber

*1484. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what steps have been taken for growing superior quality of timber in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

The steps taken for growing superior quality of timbers in Andamans Islands are two-fold viz., (a) by adopting measures of concentrated natural regeneration by which the more valuable indigenous species are specially encouraged in new growth. Such species include (1) hardwoods—Andaman padauk, gurjan and badam useful for constructional and other purposes and (2) softwoods—papita, white dhup, bakota, didu, kadam, lambapati in demand for match and plywood industries, (b) artificial regeneration i.e. plantation of valuable species introduced into the islands progressively, such as teak, bamboos, rosewood, balsa etc.

The Nicobar Islands have not yet been taken in hand for forest operations.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: What was the total expenditure incurred?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I want notice for this question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister wants notice for the question.

Murder of R.M.S. Staff in Train

*1483. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether an incident similar to the one which resulted in the death of 3 employees of R.M.S. in the R.M.S. Van in Tundla Station on 12th March, 1958, had occurred in this area in the year 1957;

(b) whether the Police authorities had been specially requested in 1957 to watch this area; and

(c) whether families of the three deceased R.M.S. employees in the recent Tundla incident have been paid compensation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Not Yet. In the case of Mehi Lal, as he was not on duty, no compensation would be admissible.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether any instruction has been given to the local Police officials that this area must be kept under vigilance?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This incident took place on the night between the 12th and 13th March, 1958. As I have just now said in reply to the main question, no such incident took place before and we have not heard of any other incident. Ordinary Police safety measures are there.

Shri Tangamani: In this particular incident as many as three workers have been killed. May I know whether the R.M.S. Employees' Union have made a representation to the Government to stop working of R.M.S. in the usual third class compartments and to replace them by R.M.S. vans?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It has been our endeavour throughout to replace the third class compartments by normal mail vans. The question is one of production and we have, I think, during the course of the last three or four years, achieved considerable progress in such replacement.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether a representation was received that for carrying cash and articles of intrinsic value special arrangements must be made and they should not be sent with other articles of mail?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Police escort accompanies such trains and we have from time to time also taken note of the desire of the staff as to whether the mail van should be placed in the centre or in the beginning or at the end of the train. Whatever could be done possibly, has been done.

Mr. Speaker: They want to separate the carrying of insured and precious articles from ordinary letters.

Shri Tangamani: . . . because in all these incidents, we find that these people go in for insured articles.

Mr. Speaker: Is there a proposal to do that?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I do not think that there is any such proposal, nor do I think that it can be practical or feasible. Even so, we shall try to examine it.

श्री बजर्राज सिंह: क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मिहि लाल, जो ड्यूटी देने के लिये टूंडला आ रहा था और ११ अप्रैल से दिल्ली आने वाला था, उसको किस तरह बताया गया कि वह ड्यूटी पर नहीं था? और अगर यह बात सही है कि वह ड्यूटी पर था तो क्या उसके डिपेन्डेन्ट्स को मुआवजा देने की कोशिश की जायेगी?

श्री राज बहादुर: इसमें वास्तविकता यह है कि उसकी ड्यूटी का मुकाम तो टूंडला ही था। उसकी पत्नी बीमार थी, उसको देखने के लिये वह आगरा गया था और जिस कम्पार्टमेंट में वह इन्फाक से उस ट्रेन से आ रहा था, आने के बाद उसकी ड्यूटी शुरू होती।

श्री बजर्राज सिंह: क्या यह सही नहीं है कि वह आगरा इजाजत में गया था?

श्री राज बहादुर: मैं यह नहीं कहता कि इजाजत से गया था या नहीं, यह मामला एन्क्वायरी का होगा, लेकिन वह उस वक्त उस ट्रेन में ड्यूटी पर नहीं था।

Mr. Speaker: Next question. **Shri Rameshwar Tanti.**

Shri Rameshwar Tanti: Question 1484.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I think, by mistake, I replied to Question No. 1484 when 1480 was called.

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): Question No. 1480 was not called.

Mr. Speaker: Question No. 1480 has been replied.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I thought it was Question No. 1484 that was called and I replied to that.

Mr. Speaker: How could that be replied?

Shri Radhelal Vyas: Question No. 1480 was called and Question No. 1484 was replied.

Mr. Speaker: How was reply to Question No. 1484 given?

Shri S. K. Patil: Question No. 1480 was not called. By mistake it was called as 1484.

Sardar Hukam Singh: The difficulty was that the hon. Member mentioned 1480 in a way that it was heard as 1484. There was a misunderstanding on this side also and hon. Members were enquiring as to how they had the reply to Question No. 1484.

Mr. Speaker: The difficulty is that both Question No. 480 and Question No. 1484 stand in the name of the same hon. Member. I called Question No. 1480—of course, I do not call a question by its number, but I call the hon. Member's name—and it appears he asked Question No. 1484. I heard him as asking Question No. 1480. Others heard him as asking Question 1484 and that has been answered. Anyway, the hon. Minister may now answer Question No. 1480.

Hon. Ministers also should be on the alert. When I called the next question, I cannot jump over from Question No. 1480 to Question No. 1484. Therefore they must be vigilant.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I was myself surprised, but since he mentioned that number I replied to it.

Terminal Building at Palam Aerodrome

*1480. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new terminal building at Palam Air Port, New Delhi has been completed and put to use; and

(b) if so, what extra facilities have been provided in the new building?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) and (b). Certain additions and alterations are being carried out to the existing terminal building at Palam Airport. A more spacious hall for Customs examination of international passengers and separate lounges for arriving and departing passengers have already been provided, and the work relating to the provision of a transit lounge for passengers passing through Delhi is in progress. It is also proposed to air-condition the restaurant and the transit lounge.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: What was the total expenditure for this building?

Shri Mohiuddin: The total expenditure for the Customs Hall and other buildings is estimated at Rs. 1.25 lakhs and for the air-conditioning of the restaurant and transit lounge, and it is estimated at Rs. 1.77 lakhs.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: I wanted to ask one supplementary question on Question No. 1484. Will you now permit me to do that?

Mr. Speaker: This is a comedy of errors.

Shri Yajnik: May I know if it is contemplated to increase the length of the runway in view of the fact that we are now on the eve of the jet plane era and several runways are being extended in Bombay and elsewhere?

Shri Mohiuddin: The question of constructing another runway parallel to the present runway is also under consideration.

Shri Yajnik: How long will it be?

Shri Mohiuddin: I hope it will be decided very soon.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

12 hrs.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO A SUPPLEMENTARY ON QUESTION NO. 1474

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): Sir, I should like with your permission, to correct an answer to a supplementary question. I gave, as you remember, figures, for Ayurveda, Unani, etc. We have done a little better.

Mr. Speaker: What is the number of the question?

Shri Karmarkar: 1474. For 1956-57, the total amount sanctioned for indigenous systems is Rs. 10,20,733. For 1957-58, the amount is Rs. 16,33,084.

Shri Achar rose—

Mr. Speaker: He has only made a correction of his statement.

Shri Achar: My question was whether it has been actually spent: not granted.

Mr. Speaker: If the question was one thing and if the answer was different, I cannot allow a correction of it now.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Rates for Press Cables

*1460. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether suggestions were made by the Indian Delegation in U.N.O. that uniform rate for press cables be enforced all over the world; and

(b) if so, the result of the suggestions made?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) No such suggestion was made by the Indian Delegation to U.N., but in connection with the meeting of the Committee on freedom of Information appointed by the Human Rights Commission, the Indian Delegation prepared a study "on the Development of Information media in undeveloped countries" in which the possibility of arranging cheap international rates was suggested.

(b) The above suggestion will be considered by the Human Rights Commission.

Movement of Jute from Agartala

***1463. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the East Pakistan Government has suspended previous route of jute carrying from Agartala to Calcutta and have arranged to carry them via Chandpur route;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to transport difficulties at present more than four lakhs maund of jute has been stock-piled at Agartala (Tripura);

(c) if so, what is its reaction in the price of jute in Tripura; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The Government of Pakistan suspended the route via Akhaura—Santahar for twenty days from 5th January, to 24th January, 1958. Booking via Chandpur remained open.

(b) Yes.

(c) There was a fall in the price of Jute in Tripura.

(d) When the Akhaura—Santahar route was suspended, the traders were

asked to send the jute via Kalkalighat and by air. After the route was reopened, Pakistan Railway officials were requested to supply an increased quota of wagons, and they have assured the Tripura Administration that they will endeavour to supply more wagons.

Settlement Operations in Manipur

***1464. Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of survey and settlement operations in Manipur has been delayed due to non-availability of a traverse survey party; and

(b) if so, when the party will be available and when full scale survey of lands will be started?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Attempts are being made by the Manipur Administration to obtain the Survey and Settlement Staff, with the knowledge and experience necessary for such work from West Bengal Government. As soon as the staff is available, the work will be started.

Shifting of Dhanushkodi Pier

***1470. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state at what stage is the proposal to shift the Dhanushkodi Pier to a safer place near Rameshwaram in view of the fact that the Government have now decided not to proceed with the Sethusamudram Project during the Second Plan period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Rameswami): In view of the recent decision that the Sethusamudram Project will not be taken up during the Second Five Year Plan period, the Government is considering the measures to be taken for the protection of the southern shore of

Imports of Parts for Shipbuilding

*1473. **Shri Subbiah Ambalam:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the different parts required in construction of ships at Hindustan Shipbuilding Yard are being manufactured in India;

(b) what is the percentage and value of parts imported from abroad;

(c) whether there is any proposal to manufacture in India all parts required; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken in this direction?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement showing separately the value and the percentage of imported and indigenous materials used in the construction of six ships built during the last five years at the Hindustan Shipyard is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 119.] It will be seen that roughly about 80 per cent. of the materials that go into the construction of a ship are at present imported from abroad.

(c) and (d). A standing Committee of technical experts has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Chief Surveyor to the Government of India, to advise the Government on the development of ancillary industries related to shipbuilding and ship-repairs.

A separate section has also been set up in the Shipyard especially to investigate the possibility of using more and more of indigenous materials.

There is also under examination a proposal for the indigenous manufacture of marine diesel engines.

Fair Price Shops in Bihar

*1478. **Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quantity of foodgrains supplied through Fair Price Shops in Bihar has been reduced from 12 ozs. to 8 ozs. per head per day; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The Bihar Government have been distributing on the basis of 8 ozs. per adult per day. Early in February, the Bihar Government issued orders to raise this quantum to 12 ozs. but later on, after consultation with the Government of India, they decided to maintain the quantum at 8 ozs. per adult per day.

Survey of Leprosy in Tripura

*1479. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1177 on the 16th December, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the survey of leprosy has since been completed in Tripura; and

(b) if so, the number of lepers in Tripura which has been recorded so far?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Airports for Jet Aircraft Operation

*1481. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the question of equipping important Indian Airports with runways for operation of Jet Aircrafts is under the

consideration of the Government of India; and

(b) if so, when a final decision is likely to be arrived at?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) and (b). Of the 3 international airports in the country, it has already been decided to extend the main East-West runway at Santa Cruz in order to make it fit for operation by Jet aircraft at an estimated cost of Rs. 4 crores approximately. As regards Palam and Dum Dum, the matter is under consideration and a decision is expected to be taken at an early date.

Grievances of Railwaymen

*1482. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the *ad hoc* Tribunal appointed in 1953 to go into some grievances of Railwaymen has since given its award;

(b) if so, whether a copy of the same will be laid on the Table; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take for the implementation of the same?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, the Tribunal has not yet framed its recommendations.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Rice Mills in Andhra Pradesh

*1485. { Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rice Millowners of Andhra Pradesh have decided to close down their mills from the 5th April, 1958;

(b) what are the reasons advanced by them for the closure;

(c) the total number of workers who would be affected by such a closure; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to avert the closure?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (d). It is understood that the Andhra Pradesh Rice Millers' Association took a decision to close down their mills from 5th April, 1958 in protest against the basis of assessment of the State Sales Tax and Income Tax. It has since been reported that the threatened closure of rice mills has been postponed, as a result of discussion between the Rice Millers' Association and the State Government.

जहाजी दुर्घटना

२०.१४. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :

क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १६५६-५७ में कितनी जहाजी दुर्घटनाएँ हुईं ;

(ख) ये दुर्घटनाएँ कहाँ-कहाँ हुईं ;

(ग) कितने व्यक्ति मरे अथवा घायल हुये; और

(घ) घायल व्यक्तियों तथा मृत व्यक्तियों के निकट सम्बन्धियों को कुल कितना प्रतिकर दिया गया ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर): (क) १८३।

(ख) और (ग). जहाँ तक बम्बई और मद्रास के वाणिज्य नौचालन जिलों का सम्बन्ध है उनके बारे में मांगी हुई सूचना का एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है (रेल्वे परिशिष्ट ६, अनुबन्ध संख्या १२०)। कलकत्ता के वाणिज्य नौचालन जिलों के बारे में सूचना अभी इकट्ठी की जा रही है और जितनी जल्दी सम्भव हो सकेगा सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

(ब) बांकी गई सूचना को एकत्र करने के प्रयत्न जारी हैं और जितनी जल्दी सम्भव होगा सभा-मटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Ships Surveyors

2015. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of ships surveyors at the ports of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, trade-wise (i.e., Nautical, Electrical, Marine engineering etc.) on the 30th December, 1957;

(b) the overtime fees paid to ships surveyors at the above ports from the 1st April, 1957 to the 30th December, 1957 separately; and

(c) what percentage the overtime fees works out to their basic salaries?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 121.]

N.E.S. Blocks in Punjab

2016. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state the total number and names of National Extension Service Blocks to be converted into Community Development Blocks during 1958-59 in the State of Punjab?

Restaurants run departmentally.

3

In addition, on this section, there are 2 non-vegetarian and 2 vegetarian Refreshment Rooms run departmentally, and 3 non-vegetarian and 5 Vegetarian Refreshment Rooms operated by contractors.

The distinction between Restaurants and Refreshment Rooms is that the

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. E. Dey): The programme is undergoing a revision in the light of the recommendations of the Study Team for Community Development and National Extension Service appointed by the Committee on Plan Projects. According to the revised proposal the distinction between the National Extension Service and Community Development stages of the programme is intended to disappear and the existing National Extension Service Blocks should automatically become Community Development Blocks. Pending final decision in the matter, the Government of Punjab have been authorised to convert the following five N.E.S. Blocks which have completed their three year period of operation into Community Development blocks with effect from the 1st April, 1958.

Name	District
1. Loharu.	Hissar.
2. Kangra.	Kangra.
3. Sardulgarh.	Bhatinda.
4. Kandhaghat.	Patiala.
5. Mahindragarh.	Mahindragarh.

Restaurants on S. E. Railway

2017. Shri Kumbhar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of departmental and private restaurants at each Railway Station from Nagpur to Waltair Junctions on the South Eastern Railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):

Restaurants run by Contractors.

Nil.

former provide service in Western style while the latter do so in Indian style.

Loan to Assam for Procurement Scheme

2018. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Union

Government have sanctioned a loan of rupees one crore to the Assam Government for implementing the procurement schemes in the State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): Not yet. The request is under consideration.

Roads in Himachal Pradesh

2019. Shri Y. S. Parmar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the mileage of motorable roads constructed, district-wise, in Himachal Pradesh in 1957-58;

(b) the money spent on these roads; and

(c) the funds placed at the disposal of Himachal Pradesh Administration for construction of roads of all types during 1957-58 and the amount spent during the year?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 142 miles of motorable roads have been constructed or improved as detailed below:

Mahasu district:	88 miles.
Mandi. "	20 "

Name of the Scheme.	Amount asked for		Amount sanctioned.	
	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1. Pilot Scheme for the settlement of 250 families of landless workers on Bhoodan lands.	56,250	1,93,750	56,250	96,875
2. Settlement of 10,000 families of landless workers on Bhoodan lands (Special Scheme.)	7,50,000	22,50,000	7,50,000	22,50,000
3. Settlement of landless agricultural workers (Scheme originally included in the Plan.)	—	45,325	—	45,325
	8,06,250	24,89,075	8,06,250	23,92,200

The entire amount of the loan sanctioned is directly placed at the disposal of the State Government. The amount of grant is payable by the

Bilaspur District	4 miles.
Chamba "	19 "
Sirmur. "	11 "

(b) Rs. 42.9 lakhs upto February 1958.

(c) About Rs. 91 lakhs which is expected to be utilised fully.

Employment of Landless Labourers in Bihar

2020. Shri Anirudh Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amount asked for and paid to the Government of Bihar for providing employment on hard manual schemes to landless labourers in that State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): Three Schemes for the settlement of landless labourers, mainly on Bhoodan lands in Bihar, have been sanctioned during 1957-58. The amounts asked for and placed at the disposal of the Government of Bihar are given below:—

A.G. of the State to the State Government only on the basis of actual expenditure incurred by it.

Construction of P. & T. Building in Sambalpur

2021. Shri P. G. Deb: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is considerable delay in finalizing the settlement of tenders invited for construction of new buildings for the expansion programme of Sambalpur Posts and Telegraphs Division in Orissa;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what administrative measures Government propose to take to avoid such delays?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). Some difficulty is experienced by the C.P.W.D. in getting contractors to tender at reasonable rates for carrying out works in the interior of Orissa, such as Sambalpur Postal Division.

This is attributed to the works being very few and scattered over a large area resulting in heavy transport charges, for carriage of material for building construction.

(c) The matter has been taken up with the C.P.W.D. authorities who have assured us of taking special steps to overcome the difficulty. The question of carrying out building works in this region by the C.P.W.D. departmentally instead of through contractors is under active consideration of the C.P.W.D. authorities. The position is expected to improve shortly.

Railway Schools on South Eastern Railway

2022. Shri Kumbhar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1805 on the 24th March, 1958 regarding Railway Schools on the South Eastern Railway Zone and state:

(a) the number of students (girls and boys) belonging to Scheduled

Castes and Tribes separately receiving education in these schools school-wise;

(b) whether facilities and financial help are given to them by the Railway Zone;

(c) if so, the nature of the facilities and financial help given;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of teachers grade-wise belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes according to reserved quota; and

(f) if not, the reason therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and it will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(e) and (f). There is no quota reserved for members of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the various grades in the sanctioned cadre. The reservation is only in respect of recruitment.

Traffic Apprentices on Railways

2023. Sardar A. S. Salgal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the rules governing selection and training of Traffic Apprentices on Indian Railways;

(b) what is the difference in syllabus for training of Probationary Officers and Traffic Apprentices;

(c) whether Special Class Apprentices with intermediate qualification are appointed to Class I Service of Mechanical Engineering Department;

(d) if so, the reasons for not utilising Traffic Apprentices with degree qualifications as officers in the Operating Branch;

(e) whether it is a fact that on the Eastern Railway, some Traffic Apprentices after completing their training have not yet been absorbed against regular vacancies; and

(f) If so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Traffic Apprentices are recruited by Railway Service Commissions from candidates with the minimum qualification of a University Degree within the age group 20-24 years and are given training for a period of three years. During training, they are paid a stipend in the scale Rs. 100-5-110 plus dearness allowance. On completion of training, they are put out as Asstt. Station Masters, Asstt. Yard Masters, Asstt. Movement Inspectors etc. in the grade of Rs. 150-225 and on acquiring experience of at least one year are eligible for promotion to higher grades of Rs. 200-300 and above in a defined channel of promotion according to their suitability for Section Controllers, Station Masters etc.

(b) The Traffic Apprentices are given three years training in the duties of Class III Traffic staff e.g., Assistant Station Master, Assistant Yard Master, Section Controller, etc. Their training is designed to produce qualified personnel to man Class III posts in grades Rs. 150-225 and above.

The training of Probationary Officers covers a wider field. In addition to intensive training in the duties of Commercial and Traffic staff whose work they supervise, they are also given training in loco sheds, divisional and headquarters offices etc. The training of the Probationary Officers in the Staff College, Baroda, is a very important phase of the training where an overall study of the railways as a transport organisation is made and the theory and practice of its commercial and transportation aspects is taught. Generally their training has an administrative bias.

(c) Yes.

(d) Both their quality and training are inadequate for direct recruitment into the Gazetted cadre.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

Kharagpur Railway Workshop

2024. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any appointments have been made in Class IV service in the Kharagpur Railway Workshop South Eastern Railway in the year 1957;

(b) if so, the number of applications received by the appointing authority from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes separately for those posts during 1957; and

(c) how many of them have been called for interview before the Selection Board and how many of them have been appointed so far?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Applications were not called for or interview held in 1957 as candidates were available from an old panel. Against 64 vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes between 1st April, 1956, and 31st December, 1957, 61 were appointed and against 55 vacancies for Scheduled Tribes, 52 were appointed.

Note: The figures for the calendar year 1957 are not available, as statistics are kept for the financial year.

उत्तर प्रदेश में फलों का उत्पादन

२०२५. { श्री भवत वर्मान :
श्री स० च० सामन्त :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष १९५६-५९ में उत्तर प्रदेश में फलों के उत्पादन के विकास के निम्ने क्या कार्यक्रम बनाया गया है; और

(क) इसके लिये कितनी सहायता दी जावेगी ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री अजित प्रसाद जैन): (क) उत्तर प्रदेश के मैदानी भागों में १२,००० एकड़ जमीन में नये बाग और ६,००० एकड़ में मौजूदा बागों को नया जीवन देने का विचार है। इसके अतिरिक्त राज्य के पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में ३०० एकड़ जमीन में नये बाग लगाने का विचार है।

(ख) उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने १९५८-५९ में नये बागों को लगाने या पुराने बागों को नया जीवन देने के लिये कर्ज के रूप में कोई सहायता नहीं मांगी है। राज्य के पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में ३०० एकड़ भूमि में नये बाग लगाने के लिए ६०,००० रुपये की राशि कर्ज के रूप में रख दी गई है।

फल उगाने वालों को टेक्निकल सलाह देने के लिये तथा फल विकास कार्यक्रम को कार्यान्वित करने के लिये अतिरिक्त स्टाफ के खर्च का ५० प्रतिशत सहायता के रूप में राज्य सरकार को दिया जायेगा। इस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय सरकार का १९५८-५९ में लगभग ७०,००० रुपये की रकम खर्च करनी होगी।

दिल्ली में नल-कूप

२०२६. श्री नवल प्रसाद: क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली के नजफगढ़ और महरोली क्षेत्रों में यमुना नदी की तटवर्ती भूमि में नल-कूप लगाने के लिये विशेषज्ञों ने सर्वेक्षण किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या परिणाम निकले हैं;

(ग) सर्वेक्षण सफल होने पर क्या सरकार की कोई योजना है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो योजना का विवरण क्या है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री अजित प्रसाद जैन): (क) जी, हां। १९५४-५५ में ज्योलाजिकल सर्वे आफ इंडिया ने दिल्ली के नजफगढ़ और महरोली क्षेत्रों में ज्योलाजिकल सर्वेक्षण किया था।

(ख) इस सर्वेक्षण के परिणाम स्वरूप कुछ क्षेत्रों में ताजा पानी के मिलने की सम्भावना बतलाई जाती है।

(ग) और (घ). दिल्ली प्रशासन के पास एक योजना है जिसके अनुसार उन क्षेत्रों में, जहाँ ताजा पानी मिलने की सम्भावना पायी जाती है, छोटे नल-कूपों के निर्माण के लिये १०,००० रुपये तक के कर्ज किसानों को दिये जाते हैं।

Key-Village Schemes

2027. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the number of Key-Village Schemes in the country at present, State-wise?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 122.]

Railway Bridge on the Jullundur-Pathankot Line

2028. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1163 on the 16th December, 1957 and state the progress so far made with regard to the construction of a railway bridge near Mukerian railway station on the Jullundur-Pathankot line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): The work is expected to be completed by 31st May, 1958.

Steel for Hindustan Shipyard

2029. Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the amount of steel imported from Japan and Germany during 1957 for Hindustan Shipyard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The quantities of steel imported by the Hindustan Shipyard during 1957 were:—

Japan. . . 21004.46 tons.
Germany. . . 8921.28 "

Training of Dais

2030. { Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Ghosal:
Shri B. D. Gupta:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to train indigenous "dais", and

(b) if so, the number of "dais" statewide so far trained?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) Yes, there is a scheme for the training of indigenous dais with Central assistance during the Second Five Year Plan period.

(b) The number of "dais" trained or under training with Central assistance is given below:—

<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>No. trained</i>	<i>No. under training</i>
Andhra Pradesh	360	720
Bombay	72	60
Madras	—	152
Orissa	—	199
Rajasthan	47	—
West Bengal	71	—
Bihar	216	108
Madhya Pradesh	}	Information is not available.
Mysore		
Uttar Pradesh	Training units are being established.	
Punjab	Proposal awaited.	
Assam	No Scheme.	
Kerala	No Scheme.	
Jammu and Kashmir	Scheme not yet finalised.	

Import of Foodgrains

2031. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the quantity of foodgrains imported from abroad during 1957-58?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): 36.4 lakh tons of foodgrains were imported during 1957-58.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में मत्स्य-पालन विभाग

२०३२. श्री पद्म देव : क्या साख तथा कुचि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष १९५७-५८ में हिमाचल

प्रदेश के मत्स्य-पालन विभाग को कितनी आय हुई व उसका कितना व्यय हुआ; और

(ख) वहाँ ट्राउट मछली पालने के कितने केन्द्र हैं?

साख तथा कुचि मंत्री (श्री अजित प्रसाद जैन) : (क) हिमाचल प्रदेश के मत्स्य विभाग की आय तथा खर्च १९५७-५८ में (मार्च, १९५७ से दिसम्बर, १९५७ तक) क्रमशः ८,१६६ और ६१,१६६ रुपये थे।

(ख) एक।

National Construction Corporation

2833. Shri V. C. Shukla: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the number of works executed up-to-date by the National Construction Corporation;

(b) the number of works pending execution;

(c) the number of works handled by the National Construction Corporation which have been taken after submitting regular tenders; and

(d) the number of works awarded to National Construction Corporation by negotiation by Government without calling for competitive offers from other parties in the field?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No work has so far been completed.

(b) to (d). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 123.]

Construction of P. & T. Quarters

2834. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 70 on the 12th November, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the construction of quarters for the P. & T. employees in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad has commenced;

(b) if so, how many quarters are likely to be constructed during 1958-59;

(c) the amount likely to be spent during the year; and

(d) the amount that has lapsed during 1957-58?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No.

At Hyderabad, the land has not yet come into possession of the Department. Money for this land has been deposited with the local authorities and possession is expected to be taken shortly.

At Secunderabad, tenders for the construction of quarters have been received by the C.P.W.D. and are under scrutiny with the C.P.W.D. authorities.

(b) Hyderabad: The proposal is to construct 200 quarters in Hyderabad. The work is expected to be commenced by the C.P.W.D. during 1958-59. The actual number of quarters that will be ready by the end of the year will depend on the date when the C.P.W.D. are able to commence the construction work.

Secunderabad: The proposal is to construct 28 quarters in Secunderabad. The work is expected to commence early in the current financial year and most of the units are expected to be ready by the end of this year.

(c) The amount likely to be spent during this year will depend on the extent of work carried out by the C.P.W.D.

(d) About Rs. 50,000 which was earmarked for Secunderabad in 1957-58 will now be spent in 1958-59.

I.A.C. Pilots

2835. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Airlines Corporation Pilots had last year declined to go on food-dropping missions in the N.E.F.A. because of certain grievances;

(b) if so, their main demands; and

(c) the details of understanding recently reported to have been arrived at between the air crews and the Corporation?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) In August, 1956, the air crew of the Indian Airlines Corporation declined to undertake supply dropping in the North Eastern Frontier Agency on the ground that it was a hazardous commitment outside the scope of normal airline operations.

(b) The main demands contained in a Memorandum submitted to the Corporation by the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association and the All-India Airline Radio Officers' Association, in September, 1956, were that there should be—

- (i) proper selection of aircrew;
- (ii) reduction of payload;
- (iii) special training;
- (iv) compulsory rest between flights;
- (v) special insurance coverage; and
- (vi) guarantee of employment in the event of being grounded.

(c) After discussions with the representatives of the aircrew during December, 1957, it was agreed that the following measures were to be adopted:—

- (i) *Selection of crew.*—Volunteers were to be called and selections were to be made on the basis of certain minimum standards of flying experience and proficiency.
- (ii) *Load.*—The minimum load was to be decided on the spot according to the type of terrain where it was to be delivered so as to minimise risk, particularly in the event of engine failure.
- (iii) *Initial training.*—This was to be arranged with the Air Force.

(iv) *Flying hours.*—These were to be restricted to 80 hours per individual per month. These have been raised to 120 hours per month at the request of the Pilots. Air crew were to be given one day off after every two days of flying.

(v) *Insurance.*—In the event of accident, air crew would be entitled to 2½ times of the normal insurance coverage provided by the Corporation.

(vi) *Guarantee of employment.*—Air crew grounded for medical reasons in the N.E.F.A. operations were to be found alternative employment.

In addition to the above, the Corporation have also offered a bonus for flying in N.E.F.A. in accordance with the usual practice of giving bonus to air crew engaged on special operations.

Overbridge at Level-crossing, Ludhiana

2036. Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken so far to build an over-head bridge at the level-crossing in Ludhiana on G.T. Road?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): The proposal of providing an overbridge at Ludhiana on G.T. Road in replacement of the existing level crossing is under correspondence with the Punjab Government. Necessary design has been prepared by the Railway Administration and sent for approval to the State Government.

Rice Purchase Scheme in Orissa

2037. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice purchased by the Government of Orissa so far

since the implementation of the rice purchase scheme on the Government account and on the private account; and

(b) what is the stock of rice available in the rice godowns of Orissa at present?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The Orissa Government have purchased on their account 27,982 tons in terms of rice upto 22nd February, 1958.

(b) 49,400 tons rice on 23rd February, 1958.

Rural Water Supply Schemes in Punjab

2038. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) how far the amounts allotted to the Punjab State for implementing rural water supply schemes during the First Five Year Plan and the Second Five Year Plan have been utilised; and

(b) the details of improvement with places?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) Central assistance in respect of rural water supply schemes is given as grants limited to 50 per cent. of the cost of such schemes. The remaining 50 per cent. is to be found by the State Government. The Central Government have so far given Rs. 17.047 lakhs to the Punjab Government who have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 23.35 lakhs upto the 31st December, 1957.

(b) The details are as follows:—

1. The scheme for villages near Pinjore has been completed. Windmills have been installed in the villages of Jagon and Rajpura.
2. Work in the group of villages in Sangrur District is in progress.

3. Work on two of the schemes for the group of villages Khadwana, Matumaran etc. and for the area of Harpankhar, are in progress.

4. Three schemes for villages Badal, Kheowali, and Tarwala have been commenced under the Second Five Year Plan.

5. The source of water supply for the group of villages near Kalka has been explored and pipe laying work will start shortly.

The State Government have proposals for the provision of water supply at Durehra and two groups of villages in Bhatinda District.

Treatment of Asthma

2039. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Asthma is a curable disease; and

(b) if so, what is the specific line of treatment?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) Asthma is a disease which is caused by very many differing causes and the treatment depends on the cause of the disease. In many cases it can be controlled and arrested.

(b) There is no specific line of treatment. Each case has to be treated individually.

Crime on Railways

2040. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that an Army Officer Lt. J. B. Khanna was murdered in a train running between Kanpur and Lucknow lines on the Northern Railway in February, 1958?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawas Khan): Yes. He was murdered for gain and the main offender, a notorious criminal of Unnao has been arrested.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Registered Vehicles and Motor Cycles

2041. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many licensed registered cars, motor cycles and trucks were on roads in India in 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957; and

(b) the number of those on roads at present?

Type of motor vehicles	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
1. Cars	1,59,630	1,70,682	1,81,439
2. Trucks (goods vehicles)	98,902	1,04,389	1,18,529
3. Motor cycles	30,242	33,324	39,000

Freight Earnings of Indian Shipping

2042. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state the freight earnings of overseas trade by Indian shipping in private as well as public sectors during 1956-57?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The freight earnings of Indian shipping Companies in the overseas trade (excluding adjacent trades such as India/Burma, India/Ceylon and India/Pakistan trades) for the year 1956-57 were as follows:

Private Sector	
Companies	Rs. 14.77 crores.
Public Sector	
Companies	Rs. 1.99 crores.

Recruitment to Gazetted Posts on Railways

2043. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many appointments were made in the Gazetted Railway Ser-

Statement

The information available with this Ministry in respect of the types of motor vehicles mentioned by the Hon'ble Member, taxed during the last quarter of the financial years 1953-54, 1954-55 and 1955-56, is given below. Similar information for the subsequent period has not yet been received from all the State Governments. Calendar year-wise statistics are not maintained.

vices by direct recruitment by the Railway Service Commissions and by U.P.S.C. during the years 1955-56 and 1956-57;

(b) how many posts were reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(c) how many Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were selected;

(d) whether the quota reserved for them has been filled up; and

(e) if not, how Government propose to fill it up?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawas Khan): (a) to (c). Two statements, one for permanent and one for temporary officers, are placed on the table of the Lok Sabha. Direct recruitment to the Gazetted Services on the Railways is not made through Railway Service Commissions.

(d) No.

(e) The vacancies will be carried forward every year for a period of two years. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 124.]

Road Transport in Tripura

2044. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees engaged in private Motor Transport line throughout Tripura State; and

(b) the total number of rickshaw-pullers throughout Tripura State division-wise?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The information required is not available as such statistics are not maintained by the Tripura Administration.

(b) There is no rickshaw-puller in Tripura, as hand-pulling of rickshaws is not allowed in that territory. There are, however, 1,246 persons engaged in plying cycle-rickshaws in Tripura, as per details given below:

(i) Sadar Sub-Division (Agartala Municipality)	1000
(ii) Sonamura Sub-Division	8
(iii) Belonia Sub-Division	24
(iv) Udaipur Sub-Division	37
(v) Kamalpur Sub-Division	75
(vi) Khowai Sub-Division	40
(vii) Dharmanagar Sub-Division	12
(viii) Kailasahar Sub-Division	50
(ix) Amarapur Sub-Division	—
(x) Sabroom Sub-Division	—
Total	1246

Development of Roads in Madras

2045. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any and if so what amount of aid was given by the Centre

to the Madras Government during the year 1957-58 for the road development work; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A sum of Rs. 11.74 lakhs was given as aid to the Madras Government during 1957-58 for development works on roads other than national highways.

(b) Does not arise.

Poultry Development in Madras

2046. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what amount was allotted for the development of the poultry farms in the year 1957-58 for the Madras State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): States are not eligible for Central assistance for development of poultry farms. However, under the All India Poultry Development Scheme, a grant of Rs. 1,45,320 and a loan of Rs. 34,300 were sanctioned to the State for running the 9 old Extension Centres and opening of 4 new centres in 1957-58.

Soil Conservation Schemes in Madras State

2047. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allotted for soil conservation in Madras State for the current year; and

(b) the names of the schemes?

The Minister for Food & Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Rs. 38.52 lakhs for the year 1957-58.

(b) (1) Soil Conservation Vilpatti Village Scheme Kodaikanal Taluk Madurai Distt.

(2) Soil Conservation Scheme in an area of 960 acres in Adhinattai Perambalur Viralimali Village in Tiruchi Distt.

(3) Soil Conservation Coimbatore-Avanashi Scheme.

- (4) Soil Conservation Kothamangalam fuel series, Coimbatore Distt.
- (5) Soil Conservation Kanga-yam Vellakoil Scheme, Coimbatore Distt.
- (6) Soil Conservation Special Comprehensive Scheme for Nilgiris Distt. to tackle 5,000 acres under soil conservation measure.
- (7) Soil Conservation Scheme for Vellore Wallajah, North Arcot Distt.
- (8) Soil Conservation Scheme Coimbatore distt, Palladam scheme.
- (9) Soil Conservation Scheme for Kadambuliur firka in South Arcot distt.
- (10) Soil Conservation Training of Village Officers, Revenue Inspectors and Community Development personnel in Coimbatore distt.
- (11) Soil Conservation Scheme for Vadachi toor and Ondampatti Village in Pol-lachi Taluk, Coimbatore distt.
- (12) Soil Conservation Scheme for 5,000 acres, Kannivady village Mulanur Firka.
- (13) Soil Conservation Scheme for 2,000 acres in Kolarpat-ty Firka.
- (14) Soil Conservation Scheme for Tiruchirapalli distt.
- (15) Soil Conservation Ketty Valley, Pilot extension scheme for the years 1953-54 and 1954-55 paid during 1957-58.
- (16) Soil Conservation Scheme for Kamandhu Village Nilgiris distt. Madras for 1956-57 paid during 1957-58.
- (17) Soil Conservation Scheme for Palladam, Coimbatore distt., Madras for 1956-57 paid during 1957-58.
- (18) Soil Conservation Scheme for Nilgiris distt., for 5,000 acres during 1955-56 paid during 1957-58.
- (19) Soil Conservation Scheme for improvement of the existing live-stock farm at Hosur Salem distt.
- (20) Soil Conservation Scheme for reclamation of eroded lands for development of fodder and pasture.
- (21) Soil Conservation reclama-tion of eroded lands for fodder and pasture during 1956-57 paid during 1957-58.
- (22) Soil Conservation Scheme for Reclamation of eroded lands by afforestation in Tiruvannamali Cuddalore divisions.
- (23) Soil Conservation Scheme for extension of Casurina plantation.
- (24) Soil Conservation Scheme reconnaissance survey scheme of eroded lands out-side reserved forests.

Andhra Pradesh Road Transport Cor-poration

2048. Shri E. Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of Transport and Com-munications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Govern-ment have any proposal to provide an assistance of rupees one crore to the Andhra Pradesh Road Transport Cor-poration; and

(b) how much capital the Ministry of Railways have invested in the Cor-poration?

The Minister of State in the Minis-try of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No.

(b) The Ministry of Railways have agreed, in principle, to contribute 25 per cent. of the total capital of the Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation. The actual payment will

be made only after the value of the assets of the Corporation has been determined.

Inland Water Transport Committee

2049. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have submitted a memorandum to the Inland Water Transport Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri B. R. Gokhle to improve the water transport facilities in Orissa;

(b) if so, what are the main points in the memorandum; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government of India in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the memorandum the State Government have recommended development of waterways in the coastal districts according to the following priority:

- (i) Improvement of canals and waterways leading to Paradip.
- (ii) Making the extension of Machhagaon Canal and the branch canal of Puri Main Canal (Daya West) proposed to be taken up under the Delta Irrigation Scheme, navigable.
- (iii) The renovation of Orissa Coast Canal.

(c) The Committee have requested the State Government to arrange for traffic and technical surveys in respect of the schemes proposed by them with a view to enable the Committee to make their recommendations. No action by the Government of India is possible until the Committee submits its report.

Platform on Kurduwadi Station

2050. Shri Naldurgker: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that representations have been received in 1953 and 1954 for the construction of a common platform at Kurduwadi Junction (Central Railway) to connect the narrow gauge line and broad gauge line;

(b) whether Government propose to construct the common platform for the convenience of the passengers;

(c) if so, when the work will be started; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A scheme for remodeling the Kurduwadi Station at a cost of Rs. 20 lakhs was put up before the Railway Users' Amenities Committee for inclusion in the list of works for 1956-57. The scheme was not approved by the Committee due to limited availability of funds. However, the question of conversion of Kurduwadi-Miraj Section from Narrow Gauge to Broad Gauge is under consideration for which a survey has been sanctioned. It is, therefore, considered desirable to defer the proposal of providing a common platform pending the result of the survey and the decision thereon.

P. & T. Offices in Dharwar District (Mysore State)

2051. Shri Neswi: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages having population of five thousand and above are without the combined Posts and Telegraphs Offices in Dharwar District (Mysore State) and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government have any plans to extend the combined Posts and Telegraphs facilities to these and such of the villages which are important from agricultural and commercial points of view irrespective of remunerative and population basis; and

(c) the reasons for not opening Public Call Offices in all taluka places in Dharwar District so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Eight—due to heavy loss involved.

(b) Yes, upto a limited number, where justified.

(c) Telephone facility has already been sanctioned in respect of four talukas, out of the remaining five, still without such facility. Subject to availability of stores, these four are expected to be opened during 1958-59. The proposal regarding only one taluka, still without sanction of telephone facility, is under examination and will be sanctioned, if found justified.

Co-operative Farming

2052. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any targets have been fixed for the formation of co-operative farming societies for the different States;

(b) if so, which of the States have gone ahead with the work;

(c) the number of such societies formed so far, in the different States during the first two years of the Second Five Year Plan; and

(d) the number of such societies formed in the Punjab?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir. The Standing Committee of the National Development Council recommended that 3,000 co-operative farming experiments be set up during the

period of the Second Five-Year Plan. It did not, however, fix any State-wise targets. During the course of the State Co-operative Plan discussions, for the year 1958-59, a target of 530 Co-operative Farming experiments was fixed, State-wise, as per Statement I laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 125].

(b) and (c). State Governments of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Madras, Assam, Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala and Bombay have gone ahead with the programme and set up 284 societies as per Statement II laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 125]. The reports from other States are awaited.

(d) 133.

T.B. Sanatoria in India

2053. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamanl:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing the amount sanctioned by the Centre for T.B. Sanatoria in the country with their names during 1956-57 and 1957-58?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): A statement showing the amounts sanctioned by the Ministry of Health for T.B. Sanatoria in the country during 1956-57 and 1957-58 is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 126].

Irrigation and Power Projects in Mysore State

2054. { Shri Shivananjappa:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the present stage of progress on:

- (i) Sharavathi Valley Project;
- (ii) Bhadra Reservoir; and
- (iii) Tunga Anecut; and

(b) when these projects are likely to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The present stage of progress of the projects referred to is as follows:

(i) **Sharavathi Valley Project:** Works are in full swing at the main dam site. Excavation of foundation of both tanks for Talakalali dam is in progress.

(ii) (a) **Bhadra Reservoir (Power Project):** Penstocks have been aligned and embedded in the dam. The trash-rack frames are

under erection. Survey works on Bhadra-Shimoga line are in progress.

(b) **Bhadra Reservoir (Irrigation Project):** Excavation of left bank canal has been completed and water was let into it in July, 1956. Work on construction of dam and right bank channel is in progress. The progress to end of January, 1958 on important items of work is as given below:

	Total estimated quantity (Lakh C.ft.)	Target Percentage	Progress Percentage
1. (i) Masonry for dam. (ii) Canal Syst. m.	243	71.9	70.78
2. Right bank Channel (1st and 2nd sections combined).	4791	76.17	77.00
3. M. lebennur branch.	225	5.32	5.90

(ii) **Tunga Anicut:** Anicut head works have been completed, except the protection works on the right, which are in progress. Excavation of channels has also been completed. Construction of masonry works is in progress.

(b) Although no definite date can be given for their completion, Sharavathi Valley and Bhadra Power Projects are expected to be completed by 1962.

Bhadra Irrigation Project and Tunga Anicut are, however, expected to be completed in 1961 and 1958 respectively.

Community Development Blocks in Punjab

2055. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state the number of multi-purpose blocks sanctioned this year for Punjab State?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): No multi-purpose block has been allotted

or is proposed to be allotted to the State of Punjab this year as all such blocks sanctioned for the Second Five Year Plan period have already been taken up.

Recruitment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on Western Railway

2056. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates recruited as Class II and III officers on the Western Railway during 1957-58 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): There was no direct recruitment to Class II. As regards Class III, the percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates recruited during the period 1-4-57 to 28-2-1958 was as under:

Scheduled Castes	5 per cent.
Scheduled Tribes	0.36 per cent.

Transport Permits for Harijans

2057. **Shri Sadhu Ram:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of route Permits for transport vehicles (category-wise) issued by the Delhi Administration during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58; and

(b) the total number of such Permits issued to the Harijans during these years?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (**Shri Raj Bahadur**): A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

(a) Number of Permits issued by the Delhi Administration.

	1956-57	1957-58
Passenger buses	9	1
Taxis	424	46
Auto-rickshaws	494	498
Public Carriers (Goods Vehicles)	145	64

(b) The number of permits issued to Harijans during the two years under reference is given below:

	1956-57	1957-58
Passenger buses	Nil	Nil
Taxis	Nil	Nil
Auto-rickshaws	Nil	4
Public Carriers (Goods Vehicles)	2	2

Integral Coach Factory, Perambur

2058. **Shri Snnbliah Ambalam:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of overhead expenses as compared with cost of direct labour in Perambur Coach Factory, Madras as at present; and

(b) the number of persons employed as on the 28th February, 1958 in each category and their salaries?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan**):

(a) Factory overheads 300 per cent.
Administrative overheads 150 per cent.
Stores overheads 35 per cent.
Total overheads 485 per cent.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 127].

Fertilizers

2059. { **Shri Rajagopala Rao:**
Shri Rami Reddy:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what are the quantities of fertilizers distributed amongst the various States in 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58; and

(b) what are the quantities of fertilizers that would be distributed in 1958-59?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (**Shri A. P. Jain**): (a) and (b). The requisite information is given in the statements laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 128].

Railway Schools, Northern Railway

2060. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools at present being run at various stations on the Northern Railway zone;

(b) the number of children receiving education in these schools; and

(c) the number of schools to be opened during the Second Five Year Plan on the Northern Railway zone?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan**): (a) 3.

(b) 1783.

(c) The Northern Railway have proposed the opening of 4 new primary schools at different places during the Second Plan period. Their proposals are under consideration along with those of other Railways.

Sugar

2061. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the total off-take of sugar from the factories in Punjab during 1957?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): 55,872 tons.

Quarters for P. & T. Employees in Jullundur Division

2062. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of residential quarters constructed during the First Five Year Plan and so far for the Posts and Telegraphs employees in Jullundur division; and

(b) how many such quarters are proposed to be constructed during the Second Five Year Plan period?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 137 units.

(b) 614 units.

Poultry Development in Manipur

2063. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how many poultry farms have been started by Government for poultry development in the Union territory of Manipur; and

(b) whether any poultry farm has been started in Multi-purpose Block in the Tamenglong Sub-division?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Five poultry demonstration units have been started so far

(b) Not yet, but the matter is under active consideration of the Manipur Administration.

Tractors

2064. Shri N. R. Munisamy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any information regarding the number of disabled tractors;

(b) the average life of imported tractors;

(c) whether any attempts were made in India to manufacture or assemble tractors;

(d) how many servicing stations are maintained in India to look after repairs of disabled tractors belonging both to the Government and private owners; and

(e) whether importers undertake servicing and repairs?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No.

(b) The life of a tractor is dependent on various factors like maintenance, nature of work etc., but normally it can be taken as between 8,000 to 10,000 hours.

(c) Yes. A licence has already been granted to one firm namely, M/s. Standard Motor Products of India Ltd. in December, 1955 for the manufacture of Ferguson 19-30 H.P. tractors. The licence is for the manufacture of 2,400 tractors per annum and according to the programme, approved by the Government, indigenous production of 60 per cent. component parts of the tractor has to be achieved by 1961. The firm produced 1,185 tractors during 1956 and 2,125 during 1957.

Some other proposals for manufacture/assembly of tractors are under examination by the Government.

(d) and (e). The number is not known, but every tractor importer/dealer is required to maintain

adequate servicing and repair facilities. The tractors belonging to the Government Departments are generally serviced and repaired at their own workshops.

Multi-purpose Projects in Himachal Pradesh

2065. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the number of special multi-purpose projects started for the development of Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the amount of assistance rendered by the Government of India in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No special multi-purpose project has been started for the development of Himachal Pradesh.

There are no major or medium irrigation schemes in this Union territory. In the 1958-59 Development Plan, a provision of Rs. 30 lakhs has been made for 32 continuing power schemes and 11 new power schemes. These largely relate to transmission and for power supply for irrigation pumps which will be used in raising food-crops like potatoes. These power development schemes would eventually help in increasing food production in Himachal Pradesh.

(b) Rs. 30 lakhs have been provided for the schemes in the Development Plan for 1958-59.

Preservation of Wild Life in Mysore

2066. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amount sanctioned to Mysore State for the preservation of wild life in the years 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jais): The amounts sanctioned to Mysore State for the

Preservation of Wild Life is as follows:

1956-57 Rs. 6,250

1957-58 Rs. 46,450

1958-59 Rs. 50,000. This amount has been approved and will be sanctioned on receipt of detailed particulars from the State Government.

Opening of Post Offices in Mysore

2067. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places where Post Offices have been opened in Mysore District (including Kollegal Taluk) during the First Five Year Plan and upto date; and

(b) the names of places where Post Offices are proposed to be opened in Mysore District by the end of the Second Five Year Plan and the estimated expenditure for the same?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 129].

Welfare Inspectors on Railways

2068. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1614 on the 24th March, 1958 regarding Welfare Inspectors on Railways and state:

(a) how many Welfare Inspectors working under the Railways, zone-wise, belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) whether the quota of reservation has been filled up?

The Deputy Minister of Railways
(Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):

(a) Railway	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
Central	—	1
Eastern	—	—
Northern	—	—
North Eastern	—	—
North East Frontier	—	—
Southern	11	—
South Eastern	—	—
Western	—	—

(b) There is no reservation in posts filled by promotion.

Railway Schools

2069. { Shri Siddiah:
Shri Elayaperumal:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many schools are there at present in various stations on the Southern Railway zone;

(b) how many children are receiving education in these schools (School-wise);

(c) how many schools are to be opened by the end of the Second Five Year Plan in this zone; and

(d) the nature of the special facilities that are provided in such schools?

The Deputy Minister of Railways
(Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) 24.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 130.]

(c) The Southern Railway proposed opening of one new Primary School during the Second Plan Period, which has since been sanctioned.

(d) The Railway Schools are like other schools managed by State Governments or private bodies. Railway Schools fall in line with the policy of

the State Governments concerned and no special facilities are provided therein.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AMENDMENTS TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (DEVELOPMENT AND WAREHOUSING) CORPORATIONS RULES

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of Section 52 of the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations Act, 1956, a copy of each of the following Notifications, making certain amendments to the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations Rules, 1956:

- (1) S.R.O. No. 1800, dated the 1st June, 1957.
- (2) S.R.O. No. 1801, dated the 1st June, 1957.
- (3) S.R.O. No. 4127, dated the 28th December, 1957.
- (4) S.R.O. No. 472, dated the 8th February, 1958.

[Placed in the Library. See L.T. 643/58].

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

SMALLPOX IN BOKARO COALFIELDS

Shri Muhammed Elias (Howrah): Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Health to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The out-break of smallpox in an epidemic form in the Bokaro Coalfields."

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-mar): The Government of Bihar deputed the Assistant Director of Public Health, Chotanagpur Division, Ranchi, to enquire into the reported prevalence of smallpox in an epidemic form in the Bokaro Coal fields.

[Shri Karmarkar]

The Assistant Director of Public Health, accompanied by the Medical Officer of Health, Hazaribagh Mines Board, visited these Coalfields on the 16th March, 1958. He has reported that there has been no epidemic of smallpox in these coalfields, although there have been one case of smallpox and 4 cases of chickenpox in the Jarangdi Colliery; 15 cases of chickenpox and one case of measles in the Bokaro Colliery; 3 cases of smallpox and 35 cases of chickenpox in the Karagali Colliery; and one case of smallpox in the Dhori Colliery, during the period 1st February to 16th March, 1958. Except one case of death from smallpox in the Karagali Colliery, no other deaths have been reported.

Mass vaccinations against smallpox have been carried out by the local health officers among the population of these collieries.

The Colliery hospital at Bokaro has facilities for 100 isolation beds, which in an emergency can be increased to 250 beds.

The Karagali Colliery has an 8-bedded infectious diseases hospital which can be made into a 25 to 30 bedded hospital in an emergency.

Though there is at present no infectious diseases ward in the Jarangdi colliery hospital, facilities are available for the setting up of temporary isolation wards in an emergency.

In the Dhori Colliery where there are no facilities for isolation of infectious cases, the Superintendent of the Colliery was advised by the Assistant Director of Public Health to set up a temporary hospital in the event of a threat of epidemic of smallpox.

The Medical Officer of Health, Mines Board, informed the Assistant Director of Public Health that he did not require any assistance at present from the Directorate of Health Services, Bihar, as he had sufficient staff avail-

able at his disposal. In case any help was needed, he would, however, contact the latter.

The Government of Bihar feel that the steps taken to protect the colliery population against any possible outbreak of smallpox in an epidemic form, and the facilities available for isolation and treatment of cases and for setting up of additional isolation wards, are adequate to meet the situation.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT —contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Community Development. Out of five hours allotted for these Demands, Two hours and Thirty-nine minutes now remain. I propose to call the hon. Minister at—how long does he propose to take?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): One hour to one hour and fifteen minutes.

Mr. Speaker: I will call him at 1-30. It will be all right. He will have one hour and ten minutes.

Shri S. K. Dey: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member Shri Pahadia can continue his speech. Not present. Pandit D. N. Tiwary.

One word. Private Members' business will start at 2-30 normally. This will go on till 2-40 as I have announced. Therefore, we will start Private Members' work at 2-40 and carry on for ten minutes more after Five.

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary (Kesaria): Mr. Speaker, this is the sixth year of the community development work in this country. A great experiment is going on on which depends the improvement

of the villages. The aim of the Development Block is not only to show some progress in the various nation-building works which have been undertaken for the uplift of the country-side, but the real aim is to rouse the consciousness of the people, to bring initiative to them and to create leadership from among the village people. Let us see how far we have been able to succeed in this and what machinery has been employed for the execution of these works.

Last year, while replying to the debate, the hon. Minister who has got not only the theoretical knowledge, but also practical knowledge, as he was in charge of the direction of programmes for many years, said about the old executing machinery:

"The officers set up administrative fronts or institutions and tried to make the best use of these institutions for themselves. If the villager even approached any of these institutions, either he was harassed or driven away."

What remedy has he found? He said:

"These projects were intended to be like the yogic exercise for the human system. . . . It is a remarkable form of exercise. If a person is in good health, it improves his health. If a person is in bad health and is ailing from something which cannot be easily diagnosed by a doctor, then, yogic exercise applied to the ailing system will show to the doctor what really was not visible earlier. We worked this yogic exercise on this system of Government and we discovered a lot of troubles really ailing the Government apparatus from top to the bottom."

This is the remedy he has suggested and he has applied for the reform of the apparatus. Let us see how far he has been successful—this is a wonderful analysis—whether even after the lapse of six years, the ap-

paratus has been reformed and whether they are actually executing the plans in accordance with the aims.

Last year, when several shortcomings in the execution of the work of the Plan were pointed out, he said,

"The Ministry will make a very careful note of everything that has been said in the debate. . . . I have decided that the entire debate in this House, every word that has been said should be compiled in a new booklet and sent to State Governments, to our workers at all levels, so that they may understand and at least know what hon. Members of the House think about their programme."

We had expected that the reactions of the State Governments and also of the workers would be available to us so that we may know how they want to develop the plan. I had a talk with some officers of the department. They said that they had no knowledge and I simply found a derisive smile on their faces on this suggestion of the hon. Minister. The test of the pudding is in the eating. Let us see what improvement has been brought about within the last year. We have got a report for last year. It is a stereotyped report. Nothing has been given as to what new ways have been devised for the execution of the projects. Of course, when a large sum of money is spent in a particular area, there is bound to be some achievement, but the real point is whether these achievements are commensurate with the amount spent. Let us analyse the achievements and the expenditure.

In the block area, excluding the loans that are given for credit facilities, we spend about Rs. 4 lakhs for every block. Out of that nearly Rs. 1 lakh is spent on building offices, staff quarters, on motors etc. Another Rs. 1 lakh is spent on emoluments, petrol, T.A., etc. Only Rs. 2 lakhs remain to be spent on development work. This is a very high figure, and I would suggest to the Minister that it is no use building huge buildings for staff

[Pandit D. N. Tiwary]

quarters or offices. The officers will be withdrawn within a few years. What will become of those staff quarters then? There will be none to repair them even. The villagers have not been given sufficient economic improvement to maintain those buildings.

I see the B.D.O.s in our State are also entrusted with revenue collection work. If it is meant that after the withdrawal of the staff from the community blocks, those buildings are to remain in the hands of revenue officers, then why fasten the load on the development blocks? Why not make those buildings from the revenue side?

My other suggestion is not to make palatial buildings, but to put up huts, good huts which may last for ten to 15 years, and although they may not be very palatial, they may give every comfort to the officers and the staff. That will diminish the expenditure on buildings and other things, and that money can be utilised in the execution of the development plans.

What do the villagers require these days? Not only roads, but some economic advantage, the betterment of their economic condition. Let us see what has been done in the matter of economic improvement.

Out of 150 million population covered so far by blocks in 2,76,000 villages, we have given full-time employment only to 23,692 and half-time employment to 45,183 villages. That is, one in every six villages has obtained half-time employment, and one in every twelve villages has obtained full-time employment. Even the trained artisans have not been employed in full.

The report enumerates the difficulties such as not finding sufficient money, rules and regulations for granting money being defective etc. Let us see what has been done to remove them. It is a dismal picture. It does not give credit to the Minis-

ter's claim for reforming the apparatus of the administration by yogic exercise. Something should be done immediately to rid the administration of its red-tapism and official mentality.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Sirasasan!

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Then only we can succeed. In agriculture something seems to have been done by way of seed and fertiliser distribution, but that is very small considering the size and the number of villages in the block. Statistics should have been given as to what has been the increase in the output of agriculture in the block areas. Hitherto I am afraid the result is not very encouraging.

In my State when the drought situation came and there was a crisis, these block areas did not fare better than those areas which are outside the block. Distribution of seeds etc., is not the end of the job, but only the means for greater production. What has been achieved should have been told. We are spending a huge amount on a limited number of villages at the cost of other villages, if I may say so. If we do not improve our achievement, we are doomed. We have not created a sense of initiative and responsibility in the villages which is so very necessary for leadership. I do not want to criticise the officers because the responsibility is ours and that of the Government. We have to see that proper persons are deputed to the block areas. In my opinion, in the name of all-round development, we have undertaken too many works which we are not able to cope with. Let us concentrate on one or two items so that we may be able to do full justice to them. About the other works, let the other departments which are doing the work in other areas do it there also. There is a saying in Hindi:

एकछि साये सब मये, सब साये एक जाय

If you take many works at one time and do not concentrate on one or two

items, all will go to the dogs. So, I want that the Minister should concentrate on a few items.

Of all the problems, agriculture and cottage industries are the most important for improving the economic life of a villager. All efforts should be concentrated on the improvement of these two. All the regulations and rules which stand in the way of a speedy execution of these two items should be scrapped.

The village economy is the economy of agriculture. We have to lay the greatest emphasis on this aspect. If America and other countries are producing many times what we are producing, there is no reason why we cannot reach even that target. So, given proper facilities, our agriculturists can achieve the same wonder which is being done in other countries. Production of sufficient food will not only improve the status of the villagers, but will also do away with the greatest headache of the Government, that is, shortage of food and expending foreign exchange on food import. This will also do away with the clamouring for increase in emoluments. When the prices are stabilised and there is more food in the country, the people who are serving the Government or other departments will be satisfied, and there will be no need for this clamour.

Let us admit that so far we have failed in our attempts. Now, what is to be done to succeed? I put forward a few points for your consideration here.

The first is concentration of efforts to increase the income of village people by intensive agriculture and cottage industries. Only these two can put some money in the hands of the villagers, so that if we withdraw after two, three or five years from the village, they can maintain those organisations and serve the people in a better way.

The second is, efforts should be made to create leadership in the villages with initiative and a sense of

responsibility. So far we have failed to do this. What we have done, is done like a Government department. The whole show is run by Government officers. The village people who have been kept in the advisory committees are not much cared for. Their advice is not respected. Moreover, officers who are in charge or who are the chairmen of these advisory committees try to set one set of villagers against the other, so that their position may be maintained.

Thirdly, co-operatives and *gram panchayats* should be established in every village on a democratic basis. Even the Estimates Committee and other committees have recommended for the election of panchayats on a democratic basis. I understand that some instructions have been sent to the States in this matter, but I do not know how far the States have co-operated in this attempt. If statistics had been given to us, and the position had been explained clearly in the annual report, then, of course, we would have understood what has been done and what has not been done.

My fourth point is about the officers. It is the officers who are there to execute the work. They are the pivot of this work; all things move round them. So, officers of proper calibre should be sent there and not any officer, any deputy commissioner or district magistrate or sub-divisional officer should be put in charge of these development works. I would suggest that for having proper personnel, we should relax the rules of appointment and seek the services of people from the social organisations or *gram udyog* or like organisations so that we may have better calibre of people who can understand the circumstances of the people and execute the works in the proper spirit.

My fifth point is about the village level workers. The village level workers are saddled with too many items of work, and they are required to be experts in every sphere. I would suggest that the load of work on the

[Pandit D. N. Tiwary]

village level workers should be lessened so that they can devote their energy to special items which will bring about improvement in the village life.

Shri Basappa (Tiptur): I am very thankful to you for having given me the chance to speak. I am one of those who think that the Ministry of Community Development has done some work and it has attained some success. Of course, the work is enormous, and it takes a long time to fulfil the noble objectives for which this Ministry has come into existence. The little success that has been attained is in no small measure due to our hon. Minister and also to the valuable report of the Mehta Committee which went into the working of the whole Ministry.

Of course, nowadays the shift seems to be on food production in the community development blocks. And that is a very good feature. But that does not mean that we should forget the welfare side of the whole thing, namely that schools will have to be built, roads will have to be formed, wells will have to be dug and so on. All these welfare activities must also go on. Still, under the present circumstances, we all know that the shift is in favour of greater production, and it is no doubt a good and correct move. In the Ministry of Community Development, we see a sort of common agency whereby the activities of all the Ministries are brought under one head, and rural upliftment has to go on. In this work, co-ordination between the activities of the State Governments and those of the Central Government becomes very necessary. When we refer to one or two subjects here, at once the answer is given that it is the States which have to implement those plans, and, therefore, we have to approach the States. But in the States we find that owing to some lethargy or some other reason not much work is being done. Therefore, I would submit that the expenditure of the amounts that are

given from the Centre must be supervised properly, and the lethargy of the State Governments must be put an end to.

The most important link in this chain is the village level worker and the block development officer. Now-a-days, they have not got much strength, and they are not able to influence sufficiently the village people. They have to be strengthened, and democratic decentralisation will have to be fully implemented before public co-operation can be got in a larger measure.

When we analyse the Demands for Grants of this Ministry, we find—and even the Fourth Evaluation Report has mentioned it—a disquieting feature. It has been stated in that report that even though the national extension service work has been going on for a long time, still fifty per cent of the people of those areas do not know what a national extension service block is and how the work is going on. This is certainly a disquieting feature. So, the question of giving proper publicity must be attended to, so that the people there know about it fully well.

Everyone has admitted that the very object of bringing into existence these community development centres is to nurture self-reliance and self-initiative. Of course, the physical targets are there. Sometimes, those physical targets are boosted up; the old wells are repaired a little and they are made to appear as if they were very big ones. Of course, I do not deny the physical targets; a large sum of money has been spent, and some little work has been done. But the more important thing is self-initiative and self-reliance of the people. And how far we have been able to bring that about is the criterion by which we have to judge the whole thing. Judging from that criterion, I think much more remains to be done. I find that co-operatives are not deriving as much benefit from these community development centres as they

ought to. In these circumstances, I feel that more work will have to be done.

Another criterion from which we have to judge the whole thing is to whom the benefits of these go. I believe it may be worrying the hon. Minister himself that sometimes these benefits go to the richer classes, while the real persons to whom they should go are not getting any benefit. Care should be taken to see that these benefits go to the real persons for whom they are intended.

About the location of these development blocks, there are big controversies even in my State, and since they have assumed a very big proportion, I venture to mention them here on the floor of the House. It has been mentioned clearly, and it has been admitted also that the headquarters of these blocks should be as far as possible in the interior of the villages. But this is left to the State Governments, and political pressures are brought to bear on the State Governments, and they try to have them only in the taluk headquarters or tehsil headquarters. This is a very bad feature. Of course, they may say that from the point of view of administrative convenience they have located them there. But the more important thing to remember is that the object is to see that the villagers are benefited most. So, as far as possible, the headquarters should be taken into the interior, and particularly when it has been inaugurated in the village parts, and an amount of Rs. 80,000 or Rs. 90,000 is spent on office buildings and so on; so, merely because of some political pressure, you should not shift the headquarters from the villages to the taluk headquarters. I would like to emphasise this fact because in my State, unfortunately, in some ways it is going on, and it has assumed some proportion.

The next point that I would like to state is about the wasteful expenditure in these development blocks. It

has become somewhat scandalous to see that the jeeps belonging to these development blocks are not properly used. I myself know that they are taken for different purposes, and a lot of petrol which is spent on other accounts is debited to the accounts of the community development block. Therefore, it should be our endeavour to see that this money which is meant for a very good purpose is properly made use of.

Another thing which I would like to point out is about the lack of co-ordination at various levels. Of course, the official elements are there and the non-official elements are there. But I have seen that the officials still do not encourage many non-officials coming there. Of course, when the hon. Minister inaugurated recently a seminar in my State, it is quite possible that on the opening day a few non-officials were there. But I went there the next day—I also took part in it—and found only three or four MLAs and all the other paraphernalia were all officials. There may be many reasons for this. I do not attribute any motives to anybody. But things must be so arranged that a larger measure of non-official co-operation is there.

What I noticed in that seminar was that they did not take any final decisions about the matter. They simply discussed matters. The Chief Secretary of the State will say that he will take note of all that has been said and implement them as far as possible. I say—I said this on that occasion also—that some sort of findings must be arrived at, so that all the conclusions definitely arrived at must be implemented. But there seems to be some difference of opinion on that. Therefore, it is up to this Parliament and to the Central Government and the local governments to see that definite conclusions are arrived at in such seminars. Otherwise, the very purpose of these seminars will not be properly served.

Of course, when I say all these things, I am quite aware of the achievements. In these hard days with

[Shri Basappa]

a difficult food situation, the community development programme has contributed a great deal to the increase of food production. There is no doubt about that. But so far as irrigation facilities are concerned, we have to pay great attention to minor irrigation works. In this respect, the rules will have to be modified. There is lack of engineers to work in all these community development areas. Therefore, more attention will have to be paid to this aspect of the question.

Also, about animal husbandry, some work is going on, but co-ordination is not sufficient and greater efforts should be made in the work of artificial insemination so as to have a good breed; efforts should also be made in the direction of castration of scrub bulls which will not yield a good breed. Our land is infected with so many diseases which affect animals. Steps should also be taken to protect animals from those diseases.

There is one other matter which I want to emphasise, and that is with regard to the training of personnel. At every stage, training will have to be done on a systematic basis. The village level worker, the BDO and other officers should be given proper training so that they may have a correct approach to the whole problem, so that far from the enthusiasm among the people being curbed, they are encouraged. Of course, I admit that these officers may have superior intellect. But they should not assume a sort of officialdom over the public. If in the spirit of service they can take more non-officials without creating splits among themselves, much can be achieved. I hope that this Ministry will see that all these things are put on a proper level so that implementation of these projects is effected more efficiently.

Shri S. A. Mehdi (Rampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak. In my opinion, this Ministry has taken quite a long time to do whatever work it has done, and in

spite of taking about 50 per cent of the entire village population under its programme, it has not succeeded in stimulating the feeling and the spirit in which it intended to do it. Actually, right from the beginning since 1952 till now, it has done the work of establishment, establishing its centres, constructing its buildings, training its people—its officers and men—and it has not yet reached the heart of the villages and has not yet reached the core of its operation.

As far as the beginning of any plan is concerned, it always takes time; it always takes a lot of time to dig its roots, to establish itself in such a vast area, in such remote parts of our country, in such backward conditions. It has to face such difficulties as his Ministry has to face. And that is why, first centres are established in tehsil and sub-division and district headquarters, but after that and till the establishment of the last centre in a district, it will be a difference of about 10 years, and by the time the last centre, the backward centre of a district, starts getting the benefits out of this Ministry, the first one would be much ahead. Therefore, it will create an imbalance in the progress of the district or of the villages or of the people.

I must say that this establishment work should have been accelerated. Establishment work and training work should have been done within the first five years and not extended to the second five years. Now I am sorry to learn that it has been further staggered into the Third Five Year Plan.

Secondly, this agency has created and further extended the official atmosphere in the villages. It is treated as another district or subdivisional headquarters of a government agency. As Shri B. G. Mehta has suggested—so many suggestions have also been made in this House and from the

States—these centres should be connected further and more intimately with people's bodies like district boards and panchayats and they should be democratised more. Therefore, I think it is high time that these centres merged themselves in the heart of the villages and not took the shape of another official or government agency.

Shri Raghbir Sahai (Budaun): Shri B. G. Mehta has suggested that district boards should be abolished and they should take their place.

Shri S. A. Mehdi: I think that is a very far-reaching and very deep suggestion which should be adopted as soon as possible. Amalgamation with the *bhoodan* and *gramdan* movements will give it the correct spirit, the spirit of sacrifice of Acharya Vinoba Bhave. I hope it will give it that missionary spirit which it requires very badly. I hope association with the *gramdan* movement will help this Ministry and these centres in creating an atmosphere which they very badly require.

Local assistance, local village talents, local atmosphere and local problems—all these have not yet been taken up by these centres. I know about two or three districts in which all the best parts were taken up first, and the backward portions have not yet been taken up; probably they will be the last to be taken up. Their local needs and requirements are there; their talent abilities and capacities have not been developed and they are still dormant as they were before this movement started. Because of the shortage of food, the distribution of seeds, manure and other agricultural facilities were done previously by other Ministries also through seed stores and other agencies. But, the co-ordination of these agencies has been done to a great extent by this Ministry. The real need is to go to these villages and tap the creative capacity which has been lying there

with the small artisans and to encourage small talents and small industry by financial help or other forms of assistance—to let these people help themselves to develop their own conditions. Now that this Ministry has been made the agency for all development and planning, I hope that it will be able to co-ordinate the work of all the Ministries which have failed to reach the villages separately.

In my opinion, this Ministry has to do a great job; it has to do a vast job and the magnitude of its task and the difficulties it has to face are very great. There should be as little time taken as possible in establishing the agencies. The first step, which Shri Asoka Mehta referred to as the initial step should be taken as quickly as possible to get the full advantage of the training centres in order to be able to do something really in the villages to uplift them. The Panchayats and District Boards should be re-shaped as soon as possible and they should be given more funds to do some work in the villages and not sit in their centres.

I know about two District Boards. Out of 5 tehsils, only 2 have received the benefit of these centres. Only in 2 places, there are C. D. centres and both of them are very big tehsils. In other portions, the conditions are still the same. I think there should be a District Advisory Council or Committee which should be asked to take a balanced view in creating these centres, and to utilise other agencies such as panchayats in doing the work of distribution of material from the agricultural department. They should be encouraged to spread the benefit to other parts also where these centres have not yet started, in order to create a balance in the progress of the entire area.

Another thing which is very important is to have a seminar or to have competitions between local artistes and prize distributions or annual functions or something like that at the tehsil

[Shri S. A. Mehdi]

headquarters or the C. D. centres. They should encourage the local craftsmen by means of competitions or exhibitions so that the hidden talents in these villages may be brought out. It will create a competitive atmosphere which will attract these people to these centres and the centres would also be able to pick up these talents.

Another way of enlisting the help of the talents of the villages is to recruit from the villages people for training. The B.D.Os are of course from the State Service; the other officers also have an official capacity. Only the Gram Sevaks and the Gram Sevikas and Gram Sahayaks are supposed to be from the local villages. Only this part of the organisation comes from the villages where the centres are. There appears to be a deep gulf between these Gram Sevaks, Gram Sevikas and the Gram Sahayaks and the officials. There appears to be a gulf between those recruited from the villages and the officers. I think the people's bodies like panchayats and District Boards should be given an opportunity to select these people; or there should be an election for these people and they should come as representatives of the villages and not as recruits from the villages.

Mr. Speaker: I said that I would call upon the hon. Minister at 1.30. If the House is willing to sit till 5.30 and start non-official business at 3, I can call upon the hon. Minister at 2 o'clock instead of at 1.30. One or two more Members may be able to speak.

Some Hon. Members: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I will then call upon the Minister at 2 o'clock. He will have a full hour. The House will sit till 5.30 today and the non-official business will be taken up at 3 o'clock.

Shri Sanganna (Koraput—Reservé—Sch. Tribes): No member from Orissa has spoken.

Mr. Speaker: I will try to distribute the time. I have not forgotten Mr. Sanganna. . . (Interruptions.) I know some people have spoken.

An Hon. Member: Himachal Pradesh.

Mr. Speaker: It must go with the Punjab as early as possible.

Sardar A. S. Saigal (Janjgir): Nobody has spoken from Madhya Pradesh.

Mr. Speaker: I know. I have noted down.

Time permitting, I will call everyone.

श्री रामब (नरसापुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कम्युनिटी डेवलपमेंट के अन्तर्गत जो कार्य हो रहा है, मैं उसके बारे में अपने विचार प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ ।

इस योजना के सहारे हम देहाती भारत की तरक्की करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि अब तक इस योजना के अधीन देहात के लोगों को कच्चे रास्ते बनवाने और कुछ खदवाने इत्यादि साधारण सहायता ही दी जा रही है । समाज के विकास की इस प्लैन से हम यह आशा करते हैं कि इसके सहारे इस देश के सारे देहात की तरक्की होगी और उनका जीवन-स्तर ऊंचा होगा । इस दृष्टि से यदि हम देखें, तो हमें पता लगता है कि जिस तरीके से इस प्लैन के सम्बन्ध में कार्यवाही की जा रही है, उसमें बड़ी बड़ी कमजोरियाँ हैं । बिना उन कमजोरियों को दूर किये इस प्लैन से ज्यादा फायदा नहीं हो सकता ।

जहाँ तक एग्रीकल्चर और ग्राम का सम्बन्ध है, इस स्कीम में हम खेती की तरक्की चाहते हैं । जो रिपोर्ट हमें दी गई है, उसमें हम ऐसे आंकड़े ही बहुत पाते हैं कि देहात में

इसने मेन्बोर्ड डिस्ट्रिक्ट किये गये हैं लेकिन हम देहात में देखते हैं कि इन कर्टी-जाइज का इस प्रकार बंटवारा हो रहा है कि वे केवल चन्द आदमियों के ही हाथ में जाते हैं। हम सभी कहते हैं कि हमको लोगों से बहुत कम सहायता मिलती है और लोग इस योजना में मदद नहीं देते। वे मदद क्यों नहीं देते हैं? इसके बारे में हमको खुद सोचना पड़ेगा। हम देखते हैं कि देहात के लोगों को हम जो सहायता देना चाहते हैं, वह सहायता कुछ धनी नामी लोगों के हाथ में जाती है। लेकिन देहाती भारत में जो किसान हैं, छोटी छोटी जमीनें जिनके पास हैं, जिन लोगों के हाथ में पांच या पांच एकड़ से कम जमीन है, उनकी संख्या पचास फी सदी से ज्यादा है और अगर हम उन लोगों की संख्या देखें, जिनके पास दस एकड़ जमीन है, तो हमें ज्ञात होगा कि उनका परसेंटेज १६ से १८ तक है। लेकिन हम सहायता किसको देते हैं? जो हम रैडिग्रि बुल्ज, मेन्बोर्ड और लोन्ड वगैरह देते हैं, वे सिर्फ नामी धनी लोगों के हाथ में जाते हैं। इस स्थिति में निचले दर्जे के गरीब और छोटे छोटे किसानों को सहायता कैसे मिलेगी। उन लोगों का हमारी इस योजना के साथ क्या ताल्लुक होगा, इस पर हमें सोचना चाहिये और इस सम्बन्ध में जो गलतियां हों, उनको हमें सुधारना चाहिये। नहीं तो हमको इस योजना में लोगों की सहायता नहीं मिलेगी।

को-आपरेटिव और को-आपरेटिव क्रेडिट का भी यही हाल दिखाई पड़ता है। हमारे गोदावरी जिले में जहां कहीं निचले दर्जे के, पांच एकड़, दो एकड़ वाले गरीब किसानों की कोई को-आपरेटिव सोसाइटी बनी या कोई रूरल बैंक बना, तो कुछ सैंड-साईज वगैरह आ कर यह कहते हैं कि वे कम्युनिस्ट हैं, सोसलिस्ट हैं, इसलिये इसको रजिस्टर न करो। वे इस प्रकार की रकाबटें डालते हैं और छोटे छोटे किसानों को बहुत ही

शिकस्तें झेलनी पड़ती हैं। को-आपरेटिव मूवमेंट को हम बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, लेकिन लोगों को सहायता हासिल करने में बड़ी कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है। जो पार्टी सरकार में बैठी है, उस पार्टी का रुख बदलना चाहिये। लोगों को सहायता पहुंचाने के लिये जो जो कदम उठाने चाहिये, उनको यह सरकार नहीं उठाती है। वह आवश्यक है कि सरकार अपनी कार्यवाही में, अपने रुख में सुधार करे। योजना मंत्री को इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये।

ग्राम सेवकों को जो ट्रेनिंग दी जाती है, उसकी ओर भी मैं आपका ध्यान दिखाना चाहता हूं। उनके सिलेबस में बारह-बीसह सबजेक्ट्स हैं। हमने बलवन्तराय मेहता की रिपोर्ट में देखा कि वह इस सिलेबस को काफी नहीं समझते हैं और इसको और भी बढ़ाना चाहते हैं। इसके बारे में उन्होंने कुछ सलाह दी है। हम देखते हैं कि ग्राम सेवकों को बीसियों सबजेक्ट्स पढ़ाये जाते हैं, उनको ट्रेनिंग दी जाती है, परन्तु वे किसी भी सबजेक्ट में प्रवीण नहीं हो पाते—किसी भी सबजेक्ट का उनको काफी ज्ञान नहीं है। जिन कामों में किसान का सारा धन लगा होता है और जिन पर उसकी खिन्दगी निर्भर करती है, उनमें वह इस प्रचुर ज्ञान के कारण ग्राम सेवक से सलाह या सहायता लेने से डरता है। ग्राम सेवकों को एग्रीकल्चर और बैटेरिनरी के बारे में भी पूरा ज्ञान नहीं होता है। जेनरल नालेज और जेनरल प्रापेगेंडा के जो काम हैं, उनके बारे में गवर्नमेंट से तनखाह पाने वाले लोगों से काम करवाने का कोई फायदा नहीं है और उस को हम ठीक नहीं समझते हैं, क्योंकि ऐसा प्रापेगेंडा हम सोशल वर्कर्स और पोलिटिकल वर्कर्स के जरिये करवा सकते हैं। लेकिन हमारे देश में कमी क्या है? सभी कामों में लेक्चर देने वालों की कमी नहीं है, लेकिन हर एक सबजेक्ट में काफ़ी ज्ञान की कमी है, टेक्निकल ट्रेनिंग की कमी है। चूंकि हमारे यहां टेक्निकल पर्सनेल नहीं

[श्री रामन]

हवायी तरफकी नहीं होती है, ऐसा सब लोग कहते हैं। जब टेक्निकल ट्रेनिंग की कमी हो, तो इस वक्त बीस-सबजेक्ट्स को छोड़ कर केवल एक सबजेक्ट में डेढ़ दो साल की ट्रेनिंग दी जानी चाहिये। इस सिलेबस में इन सब-जेक्ट्स का जिक्र किया गया है —

simple medicine chest, soil conservation, revenue matters, planning, Panchayat co-operatives, agricultural implements, rural industries, economics, improved tools, inoculation, working knowledge of basic education, social education, animal husbandry, public health, nutrition elements of various manures, fertilizers nitrogen requirements of various crops, etc.

हम ग्राम सेवक को ऐसी बातें सिखाना चाहते हैं, जो कि एपीकल्चर का बी० एस० ती० डिप्लोमेट्री भी नहीं बता सकता है। हम साल डेढ़ साल ग्राम सेवक को लैक्चर देंगे, चरन्तु गांव में वह किस सबजेक्ट में सहायता दे सकता है? किस सबजेक्ट में वह जिम्मेदारी से लोगों को सलाह दे सकता है? इस तरह की ट्रेनिंग देना पैसा बर्बाद करना है, लेकिन ग्रामीण लोगों को, जनता को, ऐसी ट्रेनिंग के जरिये टेक्निकल सहायता नहीं मिलेगी। इसलिये ट्रेनिंग पद्धति को बदलना चाहिये। सिर्फ प्रापेगेंडा करने के लिये ट्रेनिंग देने पर इतना पैसा खर्च करने की जरूरत नहीं है। इसलिये हम चाहते हैं कि एपी-कल्चर, कुछ रास्ते बगैरह बनाने के लिये इंजीनियरिंग, मैटिरियरी या मेडिकल अमि-स्टेंस, ऐसी आस बातों में, दो तीन सबजेक्ट्स में ट्रेनिंग देनी चाहिये और एक डिप्लोमा कोर्स विमल कर देना चाहिये। इस तरह देहात में टेक्निकल सहायता मिल जायेगी। इस ट्रेनिंग में इस समय जो कमजोरियां हैं, उनको दूर करने का प्रयत्न करना चाहिये। इस धोर में मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाया जाइता है।

प्रश्न में हेल्थ और सोशल एजुकेशन के बारे में अपने विचार आपके सामने रखना चाहूंगा। गांवों की घसल में जो हालत है वह ऐसा लगता है कि हमारे दिमागों में बैठती ही नहीं है और गांव वालों की जो वास्तविक स्थिति है, ऐसा मायूम होता है कि हम उससे बिल्कुल नाबाकिफ हैं। मैं आपको एक बात बतलाना चाहता हूँ। आज जब कि हम कहते हैं कि हम प्रगति कर रहे हैं, मैं एक गांव में एक हरिजनबाड़ा गया था और वहां पर अपने एक दोस्त के साथ बातें कर रहा था। बातें करते करते मुझे सात घाठ रात के बच गये। इसके बाद जब मैंने कहा कि प्रश्न में जाना चाहता हूँ तो मेरे दोस्त ने मुझसे कहा कि इस वक्त आप बाहर नहीं जा सकते हैं। जब मैं नहीं समझ पाया कि क्यों हम बाहर नहीं जा सकते हैं तो मुझे बताया गया कि नहाने का समय है इस वास्ते यमी में से मर्द नहीं जा सकते हैं। इस वक्त धीरे-धीरे काम करके वापस घर आती हूँ और आ कर के नहाती हूँ और चूँकि गांव में जो हरिजन तथा दूसरे गरीब लोग रहते हैं उनके पास नहाने के लिये कोई जगह नहीं है इस वास्ते वे लोग झोंपड़ियों के बाजू में ही नहा लेते हैं। यही हालत आज के हमारे गांवों में सभी गरीब लोगों की है। उनको नहाने तक के लिये जगह नसीब नहीं है। आप लोग सोशल एजुकेशन की बातें करते हैं। जिन लोगों के पास नहाने तक के लिये जगह नहीं है, उनको आप क्या सोशल एजुकेशन सिखायेंगे। आप बाइबल एजुकेशन की भी बात करते हैं। लेकिन उसमें भी कुछ किया नहीं जा सकता है। हेल्थ डिपार्टमेंट की भी बात होती है। वे लोग आते हैं और चीनी-मिट्टी के बर्तन डिस्ट्रीब्यूट कर जाते हैं। जब आप-वेल्थि गांव के लोगों की क्या हालत है? उन बेचारों के पास दो तीन गज जगह भी रहनी के लिये नहीं है। आप उनके खन्वर सैप्टिक टैंक सेट डिस्ट्रीब्यूट करना चाहते हैं। आप वहां के वातावरण को ध्यान में रख कर

धीरे वहाँ पर बैठ कर काम करते हैं, और वहाँ पर किस तरह का एटवाल्सपीयर प्रिवेल करता है, इस बात को नहीं सोचते हैं। आप भयरीका की एनालाजी पर ये सब कुछ करते हैं। हमारे गांवों में गरीब भ्रातृमियों का तथा हरिजनों का क्या हाल है, इसकी तरफ हमारा कोई ध्यान नहीं है। मैं आपसे जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या इस धीरे भी आपका ध्यान है? वहाँ पर पंचायतें होती हैं और वे हैल्थ के बारे में १५०० या २००० या २५०० रुपया खर्च करके सैण्टिक टैंक लगवाती हैं। इनको इस्तेमाल कौन करेगा? मन्दिरों में भी चीनी की मिट्टी के बर्तन नहीं हैं और आप टट्टी जाने के लिये इस चीनी की मिट्टी के बर्तनों का बटवारा करना चाहते हैं। वे लोग इसे क्या समझेंगे? और हम कितने गांवों में इनको सप्लाई कर सकेंगे? एक एक गांव में एक एक भी नहीं दे सकेंगे। हमारे गांवों में ३०-४० परसेंट के रहने के लिये, टिकने के लिये भी जगह नहीं है। हमें चाहिये कि हम गांवों के लोगों के सामूहिक परपज के लिये काफी जगह दे दें। उनकी हैल्थ के लिये वहाँ पर पब्लिक लैट्रिन हों। नहाने के लिये जगह हो। मकान बनाने के लिये उनके पास जमीन हो। घरों के लिये आपने दूसरी योजना में भी कुछ व्यवस्था नहीं की है। आप तीसरी योजना में भी इसके बारे में कुछ कर सकेंगे, मुझे इसमें शक है।

[SHRIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTY in the Chair]

13-03 hrs.

मैं आपको बतलाऊं कि किस तरह से सैण्टिक टैंक्स का मिसयूज होता है। इस सैण्टिक टैंक को मेरे ताल्लुके के पास ही लैडलाई ने रिस्तेदारों को बेच दिया। आज महात्मा गांधी के बेलों का यहाँ राज है। गांधी जी ने भारत की आर्थिक और सामाजिक व्यवस्थाओं को खूब समझा था। वे अन्धधम में पड़ते थे और उन्होंने ट्रेंड सैट्रिज का

इस्तेमाल किया। ट्रेंड सैट्रिज के लिये तो गांवों में जगह नहीं मिलती है और आप सैण्टिक टैंक बांटना चाहते हैं। आप यह सब कुछ पिछावे के लिये कर रहे हैं। इस तरह से गरीबों की हालत अच्छी नहीं हो सकती और न सैनिटेशन में आप कोई इम्प्रूवमेंट कर सकते हैं। आपको चाहिये कि आप इसके बारे में भी सोच समझ कर कदम उठावें।

अब मैं एग्रिकल्चर के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। एग्रिकल्चरल इम्प्रूवमेंट के लिये आप बहुत कुछ करना चाहते हैं, यह खुशी की बात है। लेकिन मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि सब सायल बाटर को निकालने के लिये जहाँ सुविधाएँ हैं वहाँ पर ट्रिलिंग मशीन नहीं हैं। इसके बारे में आपको कुछ करना चाहिये। चावल को इम्पोर्ट करने के बाद जितना भी पैसा आपके पास बचे उसे आपको इस तरह के कार्यों में लगाना चाहिये। जहाँ जहाँ सब-सायल बाटर है और उसको निकालने की सुविधाएँ नहीं हैं, वहाँ आपको इन सुविधाओं को उपलब्ध करना चाहिये। छोटी छोटी माइनर इरिगेशन के लिये आपको तालाबों की मरम्मत करवानी चाहिये और नये तालाब बनवाने चाहिये। कुओं की सुविधा भी आपको काफी मात्रा में किसानों को उपलब्ध करानी चाहिये। जब आप इन सब कामों को करेंगे तो किसानों को पता चलेगा कि आप उनके बास्ते और उनकी भलाई के बास्ते ये सब काम कर रहे हैं और मैं खशी खुशी अपना सहयोग आपको प्रदान करूँगे। इस तरह के काम अगर आपने किये तो आपकी फूड प्रोडक्शन भी बढ़ सकती है।

अब मैं विनंज नेबल वर्कर्स के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। कहीं कहीं हम सैट्रिज पास स्टूडेंट्स को भरती कर लेते हैं और उनकी गांवों में भेज देते हैं। स्टूडेंट्स हर जगह के डिफर करते हैं। कुछ गांवों में काफी तरक्की हुई है और बहुत से गांव बहुत पिछड़े हुए भी हैं।

[श्री रामन]

तो देते हैं लेकिन वहां के जो लीडर्स होते हैं, जिनकी जनता में आवाज होती है, उनको ग्राम कमेटीयों में नहीं लेते हैं। सोशल वर्क्स जाते हैं, उनको कोई सुनता तक नहीं है। वे लोग दो चार चक्कर लगा कर बुजदिलों की तरह हार कर बैठ जाते हैं। उनसे कुछ बनता नहीं है। जब ग्राम लोगों की सहायता और सहयोग चाहते हैं तो ग्रामको चाहिये कि ग्रामकी जितनी भी कमेटीयां हैं उनमें ग्राम लोगों के जो वास्तविक नुमाइन्दे हैं, उनको लें। आज उन लोगों का हम इन कमेटीयों में नहीं लेते हैं। ग्राम्य प्रदेश की ही में बात करता हूं। वहां पर सारी कमेटीयों में प्राविशाल कमेटी से ले कर नीचे ब्लॉक कमेटी तक बिना पार्टी वाले नहीं लिये गये हैं। सारी कमेटीयां कांग्रेस वालों से ही भरी हुई हैं। अब प्राविशाल लेबल में कुछ दूसरे भिन्न पार्टी वालों को लिया गया है। लेकिन डिस्ट्रिक्ट और ब्लॉक लेबल तक दूसरे लोगों को नहीं लिया गया है। मेरे जिले में पिछले ग्राम चुनाव में तब उसके पहले जो चुनाव हुआ था उसमें भी कांग्रेस को तो ४६ परसेंट वोट मिले थे और कम्युनिस्टों को ४२ परसेंट। हमारे जिले में या ब्लॉक में एक आदमी भी हमारे पक्ष से किसी कमेटी में भी नहीं लिया गया है। हम डिस्ट्रिक्ट प्लानिंग कमेटी में चुन कर जा सकते हैं। लेकिन उन लोगों की सहायता नहीं ली जाती है जिनकी ताकत कांग्रेस के तकदीबन बराबर ही है। जब ग्राम हम लोगों की सहायता प्राप्त नहीं करना चाहते हैं, हमारी कोआपरेशन नहीं चाहते हैं, तो किस तरह से ग्राम आशा कर सकते हैं कि लोग ग्रामकी सहायता करे। इस और भी ग्रामका ध्यान जाना चाहिये। जब तक ग्राम सब लोगों का सहयोग प्राप्त नहीं करेंगे, कुछ भी नहीं होगा।

बलबन्तराय मेहता-कमेटी की जो डिफिकल्टी है उनको कार्यान्वित किया जाना

चाहिये। हां में उस कमेटी की उस डिफिकल्टी के खिलाफ हूं जिसमें उसने विशेष लेबल वर्क्स के लिये ट्रेनिंग सिलेबस की डिफिकल्टी की है।

Shri Sangar: Mr. Chairman, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Community Development Ministry. The Community Development Ministry is an omniscient organisation: it is concerned with every activity of the Government of India—it is concerned with the Communications Ministry, it is concerned with the Ministry of Health, it is concerned with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Therefore, this Ministry is concerned with each and everything relating to the development of India as a whole.

The hon. Member from the tribal areas in West Bengal has spoken about the multi-purpose projects in the tribal areas. I may add a few things to that. The tribal areas are full of problems. The people there are not yet enlightened about the present day way of life. They are cut off from the modern current of life. As a matter of fact, they are so unapproachable that it is not possible for any Ministry to take a complete picture of their life. Even though there may be plans for starting projects for the uplift of these people, I am afraid that proper facts and figures have not been taken in regard to their problems. The people there are so timid and, at the same time, so unapproachable that it is not possible for the officers concerned to go and have a discussion with them about the very projects relating to their own uplift.

Then, the multi-purpose projects are started in areas where the percentage of these adivasis is very low. Though such projects are meant for the social uplift of these people, they are not taken into consideration by

the officers in these areas. As a matter of fact, the officers who are appointed for these community projects are not well trained in the method of approach to these adivasis. They do not take the people there into confidence with the result that the people do not know what is happening around them. Even though something is being done, the people are still in the same rut as they were for some centuries; they are still indolent, indifferent and superstitious. Unless there is awakening in these people, however much such schemes are thought of and conceived, I think nothing can be done about these people.

Therefore, in order to create a sense of belonging and awakening in these people social education is necessary for these people. The officers who are recruited from the revenue department or other departments are not able to give a proper impetus to these schemes. People who have spent their whole lives in those areas and people who have been working in that line must be consulted about the execution of these schemes. The schemes are prepared by people who have no knowledge of the adivasi life with the result that they are not very popular.

Moreover, these multi-purpose schemes are instituted in tribal areas which are so much cut off from the main routes of the country that the amounts sanctioned for these projects are only devoted to improving the communications. Therefore, unless the communications are improved, I do not think the amount that is actually meant for investment in the uplift of these adivasis will be really used for that purpose. For instance, there is a multi-purpose co-operative society in my constituency—Narayanapatnam. The area is so much cut off on all sides that it is not possible even to take the materials that are required for this project by ordinary means. Therefore, a large number of coolies are engaged for making some special arrangements, so much so that most of the amount is consumed in making

transport facilities and nothing is left for the actual project.

My hon. friend from Mysore has already spoken about the improper use of jeeps. I agree with him that jeeps are not properly used—they are even used for private purposes by officers. It was rightly observed by the Balwantray Committee that by using these jeeps the officers will have no living touch with the people in that area; they will go early in the morning and return to their headquarters late in the night, and they will have no time to have any talk with the people in the area. So it is very good that the jeeps are all withdrawn keeping only one jeep. Even this one jeep must only be used when there is an urgent necessity. Unless these things are properly checked, I think matters will not improve.

Moreover, the officers who are working there must be properly trained and a proper cadre must be created. Unless there is a proper cadre, I think the position will not improve. The Government of India have now instructed all the State Governments to send most of the people to the Tata Institute of Social Science in Bombay. I think they have started that scheme, but I feel that they are not sending the required number of people.

According to the recent decision of the Government of India, the amount that is set apart for the welfare of adivasis and harijans must be given to the community project in the area concerned. Though this amount has been placed at the disposal of the community project administration, I think the machinery that has been working in the Tribal and Welfare Departments has not been transferred; they are still under the same set up. Unless these officers are also transferred, there is no use of transferring only the amount, because the community project officers will be so much overburdened that they will not be able to find time to attend to the

[Shri Sanganna.]

special schemes relating to the adivasis. Therefore, in order to implement these schemes along with the other schemes under the community project, the machinery that is now working with the Welfare Department must also be transferred to the community project administration.

Coming to the agricultural problem of the tribal areas, I may say that there is a kind of cultivation which is called 'shifting cultivation'. The shifting cultivation is so peculiar that it is not confined to any particular area. As the adivasis are landless, most of the people have resorted to this kind of cultivation. Madam, you must be aware of this shifting cultivation, because you come from an area where there are tribal people. The shifting cultivation can only be stopped by providing land to these landless adivasis. Even if land is allotted to them, unless they are given the means of production there is no use of giving them land.

As a matter of fact, in Orissa there is a large amount of waste land which cannot be reclaimed by ordinary means. The adivasis are so well trained in agriculture that they are carrying on agricultural operations by primitive methods like terraced cultivation and other things. Unless the Central Tractor Organisation goes to their rescue, I think the waste land that is being allotted to the adivasis for cultivation will not give any result.

The shifting cultivation can be stopped by three means—one by improving the method of cultivation, secondly by having terraced cultivation and, thirdly, by colonisation. The Orissa Government—and I hope the other Governments also—has started colonisation; but I think the colonisation scheme is not progressing according to expectation. Unless these people are given the means of production, I think no per-

pose will be served by giving them waste land.

Proper irrigation facilities must also be provided there. In the tribal areas of Orissa there are so many unirrigated areas even though there are means of providing irrigation facilities. For instance, in my constituency itself there is one big river Indrawati. There is also the Vamsadhara river, and in the Mayurbhanj district there is the river Budabalanga. Unless these rivers are harnessed and exploited the water that is wasted will not be properly used. Very recently the Minister for Irrigation stated that available irrigation facilities up to a million acres are not being properly used. I think that will not be true as far as the adivasis are concerned. If these facilities are made available to them, the adivasis will not waste even one drop of water.

Madam, in my speech on the Demands relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power last year, I made a suggestion. I do not know whether the Government is making any effort in that direction.

Coming to co-operative farming in the tribal areas, I may say that in Orissa 2,000 villages have been put under the Gramdan movement for the uplift of the Adivasis. As a matter of fact, all these 2,000 villages are inhabited by the tribal people only. In the usual way of development, these areas cannot be improved, and it was thought that if these villages are put under the Bhoodan or the Gramdan movement, they will be taken special care of and thus improved. But very recently, I learn that the Sarva Seva Sangh has been given a sum of Rs. 11 lakhs for the period of the Second Plan, but that they have refunded the amount. I do not know why the amount has been refunded. Had this amount been expended in collaboration with the State Government, I think much could have been done. So, instead of taking away the amount from the Sarva Seva Sangh I think the amount should be expended in tribal areas.

Moreover, instead of distributing the land among the Adivasis, if the lands are properly utilised under the co-operative farming scheme, I think most of the people can be benefited. Further, if the lands are given to the Adivasis without any means for production with modern machinery, the lands will not be utilised. For, the Adivasis are not so well enlightened and educated as to take care of themselves. Now, though the people in the Adivasi areas are so much in possession of lands, there is exploitation going on. Unless there is special protection for them, the land that is held by the Adivasis for their uplift cannot be utilised to their advantage. So, in order to make these people economically enlightened and socially elevated, the Sarva Seva Sangh and the State Government should jointly expend the amount given for use in the Gramdan villages, instead of taking away the amount unused.

Coming to co-operative societies in the tribal areas, there is so much scope for the production of crops such as myrotilam, resin and lac. There is, however, a system known as monopoly system in my State. Under the monopoly system, the contractor collects all the produce from the peasants at a very nominal rate and the entire benefit is reaped by the middlemen, though the labour is of Adivasis. The real profit goes to the middlemen. Unless, therefore, co-operative societies are formed, it is not possible for the Adivasis to get real profit. Unless the monopoly system is also abolished in the tribal areas, the real forest produce will not actually be in the hands of the people. For instance, according to the report of the Balwantray Committee, some steps have been taken in the State of Andhra Pradesh. They have been doing very well. They go to the weekly markets and collect the produce from the Adivasis at a reasonable price and they sell the produce in the daily markets of the towns and cities at reasonable prices. So, whatever the profit derived from the societies, that amount will be utilised for

the uplift of the Adivasis instead of the profit actually being allowed to be reaped by the middlemen. Hence, in order to give the benefit of the forest produce to the Adivasi areas and the Adivasi people multi-purpose co-operative societies must be formed. But, then, though multi-purpose co-operative societies are formed, the people who are at the helm of these affairs must be so well-trained and must have an Adivasi bias or bent so that there cannot be any exploitation in the multi-purpose co-operative societies. Further, in order to increase the value of the multi-purpose societies, the Adivasis must be associated with them. If the Adivasis are not associated, and the people who are exploiting them all these days are kept as Secretaries or Vice-Presidents or President, there will be no use of forming these multi-purpose co-operative societies.

Coming to Gram Panchayat elections, though in the tribal areas many Gram Panchayat members are Adivasis, they are not given any responsibility. They are still kept as ordinary members. Even in the block areas, when there are the block advisory committees, and when meetings of these committees are held, these Adivasis are not able to come and attend them. Very recently, in the Central Advisory Committee of the Government of India I have also suggested that the tribal people are so poor that they cannot attend these meetings, for, they have to come from miles away. So, they must be given some allowance in order that they can attend the meetings. At present these people are not able to come. In most of the committee meetings, at places where there is a large percentage of tribal people, there is no quorum. On account of the distance, they are not able to attend the meetings. I have made a suggestion to the Minister at one of the conferences. He has not taken a sympathetic view, but I hope he will be taking a sympathetic view in future, because he is not unaware of the tribal people. He was very

[Shri Sanganur]

kind enough to visit the tribal areas in which 75 per cent. of the population are Adivasis. I need not lay much emphasis on the difficulties and the predicaments that lie in the way of the Adivasis.

Coming to the health centres, most of the midwives and nurses for the health centres are recruited from the non-tribal areas. They do not know the dialect of the tribal people. The authorities do not take into consideration the Dais, the nurses and midwives living in the tribal areas. So, it will be better if the Ministry takes into consideration the question of associating the tribal people with these centres and projects. Under the management of the Navajivan Mandal, the centres have got lady workers and they are doing very well in Orissa. Shri Maiti Choudhury was in charge of the schemes, and those people are doing very well. Unless the tribal people are taken into consideration, there will be double expense, because the Navajivan Mandal as well as the Community Development authorities are given the grants. The Mandal is given the same grant for working in the tribal areas, and the Community Development authorities are also spending money in the tribal areas. So, unless these two aspects are co-ordinated, there will be waste of expenditure or double expenditure which should be avoided.

Coming to the point of creating a sense of participation of the Adivasis in all these things, I must refer to propaganda. Now, there is propaganda in the ordinary way, namely, in the conventional way. This propaganda will not cut ice in the tribal areas. Unless there is audio-visual propaganda, much improvement cannot be made. I think it was taken up in the year 1956. Some officers of the Planning Commission visited the tribal areas. They are of the opinion that some of the schemes in the tribal areas have fallen through on account of inadequate propaganda. Unless

these people who are in charge of propaganda are well-trained in the Adivasi way of propaganda, I think much useful result cannot be obtained. With these words, I close.

Shri Radhelal Vyas (Ujjain): Mr. Chairman, I am very thankful to you for giving me the opportunity to speak just now. The subject with which we are dealing now is a most important one in the administration of the country. It encompasses a programme which relates to the all-sided development of 82 per cent. of the teeming population of our country. A very good beginning has been made at the very outset. First of all, there was a definite objective before the Government. That has to be achieved and the work started with proper training to the persons who were assigned the task of carrying on the administration of community development in this country. Though the Ministry of Community Development was created only a year and few months ago, we are happy to note that the person who had been associated or rather who headed the administration of community development, from the very beginning was entrusted with the work of carrying on the administration of this Ministry,—ever since the creation of the new Ministry. We find the contrast. We saw what heat and passion were exhibited here on the Demands for Grants relating to this Ministry in the last budget session and we see the debate that is going on in this session. As I pointed out, from the very beginning, steps were taken to train the officers and the staff who carried on the administration of the different blocks. One achievement of this Ministry which has rendered great service is the book *Guide to Community Development*. I think this is a unique book and it serves as the *Bhagavad Gita* to those who are entrusted with the duty of carrying on the administration in the community development area. I hope that, the other Ministries also would copy the example set by this Ministry.

An Hon. Member: It should be translated.

Shri Radhe Lal Vyas: Yes: I wish it could be translated in Hindi and other regional languages also. There should be a cheap edition made available to the various staff up to the village level worker and also to the public at large. I wish that similar guides are prepared by other Ministries also. There are very fine principles, the various duties assigned to the different officers, the hopes and expectations, what to do and what not to do—everything has been covered there. But steps have to be taken to see that the fine principles enunciated therein are followed and carried out properly. There must be some agency to see to it that the duties and responsibilities that have been defined for the different officers and the staff are really carried out by them sincerely and honestly.

Hon. Members have pointed out several defects and shortcomings. They are there no doubt and nobody is oblivious of them. But perhaps the hon. Minister knows much more than any of us here and that is why the committee on plan projects appointed a study team for community development and national extension service headed by Mr. Balwantray Mehta. This team met several persons and agencies and different officers and a very detailed study was made by them. They produced a very useful report. There is no point which has been left out by this study team. It is no use repeating them in the House here. Perhaps they have dealt with it most exhaustively than anyone of us can do here within the short time at our disposal. Of course, the report is there and perhaps the hon. Minister has circulated copies of this report to the various Governments and asked for their comments. But I would urge upon him to see to it that the various suggestions made therein should be carried out at the earliest opportunity. Sufficient time has passed since the report was made. It should not merely remain

on the shelf of the Secretariat library here or the secretarists of the various States where the report must have reached. But there must be an early conference of the different Development Commissioners and the Ministers concerned. They must sit together for a sufficiently long time, study the report and take decisions. Unless that is done, I am afraid this very important work will lag behind and the object and the purpose for which this work has been undertaken will not be achieved to the extent to which we wish it.

So, I do not propose to deal with any shortcomings or the drawbacks or the defects or the methods of improvement or suggestions with regard to community development administration. They are there in the report itself. I think that sooner they are implemented the better it is. However, there are two or three points I would specifically mention. As suggested in the report itself, there must be a uniform administrative pattern for the whole of the country and all the States. Unless this is done, the work will not progress properly. It must be done. It is no use that we are having different administrative patterns in the different States for the different officers who have been in charge of carrying on the administration of community development in addition to the various duties as revenue officers or some other officers in their parent departments. So, this has to be done. This democratic decentralisation is very important and much emphasis has been put by this study team on this subject. Of course, the block advisory committee is there. Last year, the hon. Minister after discussions with the M.P.s. and the various heads of departments in the States issued a circular and suggested a pattern of the block advisory committees. I think they have begun to function there.

Shri P. E. Patel (Mehsana): Are all represented in it?

Shri Radhelal Vyas: They are represented according to the suggestion made. M.Ps., M.L.As., and the representatives of the various institutions and organisations are there.

Shri P. R. Patel: Which organisation?

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): Congress.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: Yes; if Congressmen are elected, they are there. They cannot be denied. But we cannot say that members from other parties or from various institutions, panchayat samitis, etc., are not represented. They have a right.

I was talking about this democratic decentralisation. These panchayats have begun to function very effectively and they have to be given responsibilities. Of course, the technical know-how grants-in-aid and staff have all to be provided by the State. But the plan and the various schemes have to be initiated by the people at the village level by the panchayat samitis and they should be given full responsibility to carry on those schemes. The facilities should of course be made available to them. This has to be done; otherwise, six years have already passed and by the end of 1962, we have to cover the whole of the country by community development areas. So, this has to be done very early so that people do realise their responsibility and they may be able to achieve something at a very early stage.

As has been pointed out, emphasis has been laid more on petty buildings, approach roads, other roads, school buildings, panchayat bhavans and some other works. But now more emphasis has to be laid on bigger objectives. After all, the objective of the Community Projects Administration is not only to construct roads, buildings, etc. but also to change the very outlook of the people, to make them conscious of their state of affairs, build or develop proper village leadership or village organisations and institutions

and make them responsible citizens of our country. That should be the specific object and all the energy and efforts should be directed towards the achievement of this specific object.

Shri P. R. Patel: For that there should be democratic institutions in every district.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: The hon. Member must have heard me a couple of minutes earlier when I had stated that there should be democratic decentralisation as early as possible.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: And their heads should be District Magistrates.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: Democratic decentralisation does not mean that they have to carry out the orders of the Collector. Even if the Collector is there, he is there to carry out the wishes and the suggestions and the schemes prepared by the village Samitis. That has been suggested by the State team and, I hope, nobody will deny it.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member must conclude within a minute.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: Then we must look into economy, efficiency and speed. Our budget has been reduced to Rs. 4 lakhs now and, as pointed out by the hon. Mr. Tiwary Rs. 1 lakh is spent on salaries. Then we spent Rs. 80,000 on buildings and another Rs. 80,000 on advancing loans; very little sum remains for some other works. So, the progress will be retarded if more money is not made available to the Blocks. Where buildings can be found, I fail to understand why money should be spent on that. So far as my State is concerned, I can say that the Development Commissioner is really a capable man. Being associated with him in the administration for some time, I know him well. I would urge upon the hon. Member that he should see that money

is not spent where it can be saved. For example, in the Ghatia block—I wrote a letter inviting pointed attention—there was a village which was centrally located in the Block and the village people there offered to make available a building, which was purchased by them at their own expense. But finally a village has been selected where there is nobody to build houses or offices and the office is functioning outside the Block area. In such cases, why should the money not be saved? I can cite very many instances where economy can be effected and money can be saved.

Mr. Chairman: His time is over.

Shri Mahagaonkar (Kolhapur): I had the privilege of working in the Committee at the Centre and even at the village level, from which I have gathered some experience, and I think it will not be out of place if I put it before the House.

As far as Community development is concerned, we are told that it is a new experiment which will change the face of the rural community. There are so many publications on the subject. But I do not wish to take the time of the House by giving these figures. In my speech on the President's Address I remarked about the move that has taken place in my constituency, so far as this community development is concerned, and the hon. Minister was pleased to ask me for particulars. I have got a complete list of the irregularities that have taken place, so far as Community Projects areas are concerned. In one of the meetings the Minister said; "I would like to see these things through your eyes", which is a very good thing. I know that the Minister is taking a very keen interest in this matter.

Community development is primarily meant for our village people. If we study these problems, we find that there are so many committees and boards in Bombay, particularly in my constituency. There was a discussion in this House about the set-up of this

administration and it was agreed in principle that the present administrative set up for the community development is not the proper one.

But what are the measures that we have taken to set it right? That is the first question. In Bombay we have got so many bodies at the district and village level. Firstly, there is the district local board for the rural area, which is elected by the people. Then we have got the district development board, also doing work for the rural area, which has got its own body, where a lot of defeated candidates have been nominated; only elected members are *ex-officio* members of that board. Not only this, we have got for educational purposes the district school board. Again, we have got these consultative councils, working under the district development boards, directly under the control of the Collector. Even in these consultative councils, as the other friend just now said, no proper representation is given and that is why we are having this problem. The problem of the agriculturists is not properly seen; it is not properly studied.

There are various reasons for this. For instance, the tenancy Act is defective. Who is responsible for this? Then, in my constituency, murders are taking place due to this defective Tenancy Act. But the administration state—the Bombay Government boast—about the health of the people. Then there is another thing. The Bombay Government boasts that prohibition is a success. I challenge the Government on this issue. In every village of Bombay, particularly in Western Maharashtra, there is illicit distillation. You can ask anybody in Bombay. It is a cottage industry, which is flourishing well.

An Hon. Member: What has it to do with Community Projects?

Shri Mahagaonkar: It is affecting the health of the people and yet they talk of "स्वयमेव जयते"

[Shri Mahagaonkar]

At the same time, they do not admit their mistakes. Because of the illicit drinks, people are losing their health. They have lost it completely. When such things are happening, at least be honest enough to admit it. It is harming the people. I do not say that you should not introduce prohibition. By all means, do have it. I am not against prohibition. But I am particular of the health, especially of the villagers.

There are so many problems to be solved. As far as the question of rural and urban areas is concerned, recently a meeting of the All India Agriculturists Federation was held where they have given a complete picture. They have stated:

"For urban people the Planning Commission in the draft Second Five Year Plan had recommended a net annual income, free from taxes of Rs. 30,000 per head, and there could be several members earning that income in each family, as against an income of Rs. 3,600 per year including wages for the whole family in the rural sector".

"The proposal for a ceiling on agricultural income and ownership of agricultural property is unjust, discriminatory and unconstitutional. If nobody is left in the rural sector with a income exceeding Rs. 3,600 per year for a family of five persons there will be no chance of any rural family sending their children for higher education and no chance of their children for competing on merit for posts in the Public Administration and still less chance to fight elections to the legislature. Surely the agricultural proprietors have committed no crime to be singled out for such discriminatory treatment for all the 85 per cent of the rural people to be reduced to a despicable position. After the elimination of men of intelligence, capital

and enterprise from agricultural profession and forcing them to the urban areas, would the rural leadership be provided by urban Bureaucracy? Will this not lay the foundation to Urban-Vs-Rural conflict of a virulent type?"

This is the picture they have shown you.

Today we talk of peasantry and then what do we find of the administrative set up altogether there? It is just nothing but that they try to put their party influence and through which, they think, they can win the people. I admit that the party in power is bound to carry a little influence but when you talk of democracy and when you talk of so many other things, why do you want to have so many of these bodies?

In my own constituency I have this Sarvodaya centre. This centre is also doing work for rural uplift. I would like to relate one incident in this connection. In one of the talukas known as Ghadhingre Taluka in village Habal, the Sarvodaya people tried to dig a well for the villagers. What happened was that it was found to be very difficult to get water out of that well. So, ultimately these so-called Sarvodaya workers asked for the help of some of the villagers to pour water in that well by means of buckets and other things and got the certificate from the officers concerned. They took that money. The matter is still under investigation. This is what Sarvodaya is doing.

I would like to give another instance of Ajara Taluka in my constituency. There is a Forest workers' union in which these people are dabbling. As a matter of fact I do not understand what Sarvodaya has got to do with the organisational aspect of this union of the workers. Actually, they are threatening the people, who are working in that union. They have got some representation—it is a

very funny thing that the Bombay Government has given representation to the Sarvodaya people there as the Sarvodaya centre is located in that area. These people try to dabble in their affairs. Not only that, they even sometimes give threats to the workers by saying, "If you do not obey us, we shall see that this workers' association shall be abolished and no funds will be given to you." Such sort of things are being carried out.

Not only this, in the District Development Board in my constituency, where there are more than 50 members, only eleven members got elected. The rest are those, who have been defeated in elections, those who have no confidence and those who were not wanted by the people of Kolhapur. They have been nominated as the representatives of the people. How then do you expect the co-operation of the people? How do you expect these things? I would like to say that you entirely change the pattern of your administration and give more representation to the people. I would like to suggest the hon. Minister that instead of having so many bodies, you better ask the Government of Bombay to consolidate all these into one body. At least more representation should be given. Those who are elected by the people should be appointed instead of trying for party influence. By doing so, you are not following a democratic method but you are having some sort of a corrupt political practice. That is the blame that you will have to take tomorrow. If this is started by a bigger party like the Congress, naturally the other smaller parties that are working, if at all they get a little power, will take a lesson from this. Then do not talk of democracy and do not talk of these things that you are for the farmers. As a matter of fact many defective things are taking place.

Last time on this Ministry's Demands, my friend, Shri Khadilkar, said that you must have a missionary zeal. Are there no workers with the

missionary zeal? The missionaries approached the people with some religious approach and because of that the people had no faith in them. But Community Development is building a new India. We want to teach our farmers. We want to change their ideas. We want to have some happy life before us for the new India and for the generation that is going to take the responsibility of this nation. But unless and until right from the beginning we start something new, nothing is going to happen.

You have got the social education centres in the Community Development. What is this social education doing? Appointing lady members and what you find is that it is creating a bad impression among the rural people. I do not object to ladies, but, actually what are they doing there? They are sitting in the offices and it is some sort of a club. People go there and just have entertainment for the evening. It is creating a bad impression among the villagers. You can come with me to any part of my constituency and I will prove to you what the people are talking about. I do not object to ladies—lady Members should not take it as an insult—I just say that this is what is happening. Actually in the rural areas they have got their different manners. They have got their traditions.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: All this is happening in Kolhapur?

Shri Mahagaonkar: Yes.

Kumari M. Vedakumari (Eluru): Is there a club in the village?

Shri Mahagaonkar: I am not saying that there is a club. It is a club atmosphere of which I have talked. Do not worry about it. These are the things.

I suggest the hon. Minister to scrap the social education. So far as you do not understand the rural problems and the rural approach, scrap this social education and put that money for some other development purpose.

[Shri Mahagaonkar]

The other thing is the question of lands. How many of us can definitely say that we have studied the entire problem of the rural area? I myself admit that I have not studied well, but still whatever I can find I know. There are various classes—there is a middle class peasant, there is a landless farmer, there are the upper categories and all sorts of these things and there is a sort of a link between them. But today new things are taking place. The primary need of our agriculturists is money and they are provided that through these co-operatives. But see the fun of these co-operatives. What is happening is that the central co-operative of the district takes the loan from the State Bank on a nominal interest, while, giving this money as a loan to the agriculturists, they charge six to seven per cent. They get it for three to three and a half per cent. Why do you make money on this?

An. Hon. Member: Even less.

Shri Mahagaonkar: Even less than that. Why do you make money at the cost of the agriculturists?

In my constituency also you give loans, known as taccavi loans for getting engines or something like that. One of my friends wanted such a loan. He is a sugarcane grower. He wanted this loan just to irrigate his land. He approached the District Collector. I went to the Collector and told him, if you did not give him this loan, his crop would wither away. The collector said that he would do it. Three months passed. Actually the crop was drying. Later on to my surprise, after about five or six months my friend was given that loan. I asked him as to how he managed it and why that delay was taking place. He said, "Because I went with you—you being our representative—the crop was not taken any cognisance of. The last thing I did was that I took out a ten

rupee note and this is how I managed to get this thing".

Therefore I would request the hon. Minister that as the primary need of our agriculturists is immediate help such as loans he should see that a committee with a body of representatives—Members of Parliament, Members of the legislature, members of district and local boards and all these—should be formed with a direct power to give loans to the agriculturists.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri Mahagaonkar: There are so many things.

As this is a new experiment, our hon. Minister needs sympathy. I do admit that we should encourage the hon. Minister to do his best. He himself admitted that. The other day, our then Minister of Irrigation and Power, Shri S. K. Patil said that State Governments are lords by themselves. It is a fact. The Government of Bombay are lords by themselves. They do not want whatever we in the Consultative Committee suggest. The Consultative Committee has suggested so many things. The Government of Bombay are not willing to take whatever suggestions have been put forward by the Central Consultative Committee. If they are not going to take into consideration the suggestions made by the representatives of the people, how the hell are they going to manage the whole affair? How is democracy going to function?

I would like to conclude my speech with the words of former Chief Minister of Mysore, Shri Hanumanthaiya. He said:

"The Congress has adopted a resolution that the country will have a socialistic pattern of society. The agriculturists who owned lands and cultivated them were basic factors in society and what they sincerely thought and

determinedly pursued would, in course of time, become true. He would ask them to have faith in themselves and work hard.

Further he says:

"...the new idea of socialism would work so long as Prime Minister Nehru was there at the head and the moment he left, this new socialism also would go with him. This socialism was like the new religion founded by the great Emperor Akbar (Din Ilahi) which vanished the day Akbar died."

With these words, I conclude.

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): Mr. Chairman, I feel a sense of being overwhelmed when I rise here to reply to the debate on Community Development. I feel overwhelmed because, last year, when I stood up here, there was so much of criticism, so much of fire raised in this House; at least I could complain of the lack of sympathy and understanding of my problem. This time, there is so much of understanding, so much of sympathy that I feel overwhelmed at my own smallness as regards what is expected of me; in spite of all that I may do, how little I may achieve.

I know there are so many things that can be done. I remain most of the time I can, in the villages of India. Therefore, I try to see with my own eyes and feel with my own pulse to the extent I can trust it, as to what is happening. We have submitted an administration report to this House. It is an official report and it is bound to suffer from its own limitations. I have tried to see this programme on behalf of the hon. Members of this House. I have travelled with them wherever they were available and I could get them freed from their other occupations. I believe I owe it to the House, before I answer the various questions, to give

a bird's eye view of the programme as I have seen it, on behalf of the House.

The first question, in which I know this House will be interested, is that of food. For the past one year, I can claim that I have spent at least half of my time, if not more, whether I have been in Delhi or I have been in the field, in trying to promote, to strengthen, to fire up the agricultural programme wherever I possibly could. In the same way, our Ministry has been trying to allocate its time. I know hon. Members here would like to know the specific concrete steps that have been taken, rather than generalised information. We have tried to bring about an increased emphasis in the Block on the part of all the Block workers starting from the Block Development Officer and ending up with the village development worker, on agriculture. We have said that 60 to 70 per cent of the time of the Gramsevak in particular should be devoted only to the production programme. I am sorry, I cannot claim that we have been able to achieve it. In fact, if we can get the gramsevak to work 70 per cent of their time in agricultural production, we would have had much more production in this country than we have today. He is not in a position to give 70 per cent of the time for the simple reason that he does not have the resources which he can transmit.

Shri P. R. Patel (Mehsana): May I put a question whether the Gramsevak know something of agriculture?

Shri S. K. Dey: The Gramsevak has been trained for a period of one year in agriculture by the Agriculture departments of the States, under a programme of training sponsored by the Central Ministry of Food and Agriculture, followed up by a period of six months training in first aid in other subjects. Of course, he does not know enough. He will take time to grow. No one can train anybody to be an expert in an institution.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What about Gramsevikas?

Shri S. K. Dey: I will come to them later.

We have not been able to bring up 70 or 80 per cent of the time of the Gramsevikas to agriculture.

The next important thing is, we have been able to bring about a desire on the part of our workers to draw up, for the first time, plans on the basis of Gramsevak circles and also of villages wherever possible. The intention ultimately is to take it down to every single family. But, as yet, we are not ready for it. We have started since the 2nd of October this year a programme of training of Farm leaders or good farmers. We know there is acute shortage of trained manpower in technical departments handling agriculture in the States as well as in the Centre. Therefore, we have combined the efforts of the Government workers with the efforts of good farmers, who are trained in their own subjects and who know much more in many cases than the best of the Agricultural officers available locally. We thought we could make a combination of the efforts of progressive farmers and of the Government agencies. We held, I believe, about 2000 camps or a little over and about 120,000 farmers have gone through the camps, exchanging ideas with each other, and trying to exchange ideas with the Government workers. We hope that when these progressive farmers go back, they will try to give the lead to the less privileged section of the farming community in India. From the limited experience....

Shri P. R. Patel: Are any practical lessons given to these farmers or only theoretical lessons?

Shri S. K. Dey: They exchange ideas with each other, strengthen each other, and at the same time, they exchange ideas with the Government

agencies, try to strengthen the Government agency as well as try to strengthen themselves.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member wants to know whether in this exchange there is actual practical training.

Shri S. K. Dey: There are also practical demonstrations given side by side. Of course. From the limited experience that I have had personally so far, these camps hold a very high promise.

We have then started a competition between the villages and between Gramsevikas on the subject of agriculture on the basis of the whole country. The Gramsevikas are going to compete with each other for a prize at the District level, at the State level and at the national level, and these Gramsevak circles will also receive prizes from the Government and these will be prizes to the villages.

We have tried to promote in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture an extension wing which will try to co-ordinate all the assistance that the Agriculture Ministry from the various sectors can offer to the people in the villages, produce literature in the style that the village people can read and understand and transmit to the villages techniques and other assistance, supervise the aid that the State Governments are supposed to give to agriculturists in matters of supply of technical assistance and other things. We have tried to promote seminars exclusively on agriculture by agricultural workers, by agriculturists in the States, by Government workers, functioning in the blocks, by Government workers functioning in the districts and others in charge of handling the agricultural programme. We have tried to introduce now a programme for refresher training of the gram sevikas who have been in the field and who will come back to get improved lessons on agriculture from research people. We have tried

to establish National Extension Service and Community Development blocks around the research centres, so that the research units can be related to the ground, instead of functioning in the air as they have done in the long past. We have tried to bring about co-ordination between the all-powerful revenue agency and the technical agency handling the agricultural programme, thereby strengthening the effectiveness of the agricultural programme.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I ask what has been the increase in output due to all these efforts?

Shri S. K. Dey: It is extremely difficult for anybody to measure exactly what the increase in the output has been. Of course, the National Sample Survey organisation has been carrying out sample survey by crop-cutting experiments. I would not like to give the figures that we have received from the National Sample Survey because they are so far very highly complimentary to the NES and CD programme, and I myself am not sure if I can depend on this complimentary revelation. I would much rather wait to see what total effect all these activities have on the overall availability of foodgrains in the country despite the increasing population. But I know it for a certainty that improved practices are being adopted by people in these community projects and National Extension Service areas. There is increased, very much increased, use of fertilizers, of improved seeds, of irrigation facilities. All these things must be conducive to increased production, unless there is something very abnormal and very perverted about the whole affair, which is not the case.

Coming to the question of animal husbandry, I mentioned last year that it was very difficult to increase the stock of bulls overnight. Through the kindness of the American Government, we have now a very large

number of poultry birds which are available for distribution, and are being distributed. We are also trying to see that in every district there is a farm, and that that farm supplies the birds to the village people. In certain areas, fairly large number of areas, we see plenty of poultry birds roaming around and also a good bit of work is being done under artificial insemination in the field of cattle breeding. One can almost see in the face of the people working the birds they are distributing, the bulls they are distributing. The people are so interested in their programme.

Side by side also, there are institutions where one sees the birds and the bulls are getting leaner and thinner and the keepers of the birds and bulls are getting fatter and fatter. There are people available even today who would like to milk even the bull if they possibly can. I may say, to my satisfaction at least, that that tribe is gradually vanishing. We are trying, under the impact of this programme, to pull them up and expose them wherever such tribes still continue to survive.

In the field of minor irrigation, we have had a little difficulty. Major irrigation is handled in the States by the State Department of Irrigation or Public Works. Minor irrigation under the Grow More Food campaign is handled by the Agriculture Department. The Community Development agency did not set up a separate minor irrigation agency. Therefore, we have suffered. We find, despite the fact that there are Rs. 50 crores available for the Second Five Year Plan and up to now we should have spent a considerable portion of this Rs. 50 crores, our accomplishment has been very small comparatively. Therefore, we have tried now to make the Irrigation Department in the State responsible for this work by creating a cell in it specifically responsible for the minor irrigation programme.

We have also tried to bring about an added emphasis on the minds of

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all our workers, and I am very hopeful that not very long from now I shall be able to report much better results in the field of minor irrigation.

Shri C. K. Nair (Outer Delhi): How are you going to find funds and the co-ordination of the two departments?

Shri S. K. Dey: There are some funds provided under the Grow More Food campaign which are handled by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, and there are funds in the Community Development programme. At the block level the two funds are co-ordinated and are intended from now on to be implemented by the same agency.

Coming to the field of village industries

Shri Sambandam: What about the drainage problem?

Shri S. K. Dey: I will come to that later.

This is a field in which I may say we have not yet been able to break the ground.

Shri P. R. Patel: You will never.

Shri S. K. Dey: The biggest difficulty we encounter is in the field of marketing of the products of the village industries. Secondly, we also find that both in the Directors of Industries and the *entrepreneurs* of industries there is an overwhelming bias towards the urban areas. Therefore, it becomes very difficult to do anything in the villages except what little can be done by the block staff, in the absence of expert guidance.

For the first time we have been able now to bring about a co-ordinated programme of training of workers to guide these village industries. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission and the Small-Scale Industries Board at the Centre are running training centres for the training of

what we call extension officers in village industries. In fact, quite an appreciable number of people have already been trained and they are already in the field.

The two industries which are fairly certain and which can be tried out in almost any area are brick kiln and Ambar Charkha. We are trying to propagate both these as extensively as we possibly can. But as soon as we come to mechanised industries, we get into difficulties. Immediately the production increases and we do not know where to market the stuff. This subject will require a considerable amount of further study, and it is being studied by the regional institutes set up under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and also by the State Directors of Industries. We also hope that sooner or later we shall be able to attract the attention of entrepreneurs to the villages. We shall also be able to build up local leadership for co-operative organisations of village industries.

Coming now to the question of housing—rural housing, here again, whatever rural housing has been done till now has been done under the sponsorship of the Public Works Department in the State. Public Works Departments have been trained in building barracks or buildings and structures in a particular way. They may be very good in urban areas, but in our villages they do not fit in. We find that instead of promoting rural housing which will be self-perpetuating and self-expanding, we promote a new kind of architecture which does not fit into the rural environment. Therefore, under the Ministry of Works and Housing, a new cell specifically for the purpose of promoting rural housing is being set up in the States.

My hon. friend Shri Tangamani had made a remark the other day. I shall

like to answer him at this point. I am very sorry that he felt hurt because of what he considered as something having been done by the Ministry to over-rate its own accomplishments. I am very sorry that he has had the occasion to feel hurt. But I am afraid, he has been hurt because of a slight error committed by himself. I am very sorry about it. I shall answer both the questions together. He mentioned:

"This is the answer that I got: 5,000 VDO's are required; already 3,200 have completed the training. So far as SEO's are concerned, 10,000 trained hands are required already 7,040 have received the training. It is in the same question. But now in the Report we find that 1,811 VDO's and 3,623 SEO's have received training till the end of January, 1958. I would like to know which of the two is correct...."

Shri Tangamani: I meant block development officer, not village development officer.

Shri S. K. Dey: I am reading from the proceedings of the House.

"....because earlier we find that more than 7,000 people had received training, now we are told only 3,623 have received training. The one or the other must be wrong."

Of course, one is wrong, and that was what the hon. Member himself read. Apparently he read a wrong column in the statement. He should have read a column to the left of what he actually read. He read the column relating to the number of people yet to be trained instead of the one relating to the number of people that have been trained.

The second point that he mentioned was about housing:

"It says that 100 rural housing projects are coming up, in 500 villages rural housing cells have been set up, socio-economic and

technical survey of the selected villages has also been carried out. That shows that very many things have been done, but actually things are only beginning to take shape."

Shri P. R. Patel: On a point of order. I would like to know whether the Minister should give us some information or he should go on talking about housing as if it were an essay. I want to know how many houses have been built through the community projects.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister is replying to certain remarks made by various speakers. The point mentioned by the hon. Member may be covered later on, but just now he is replying to a particular point made by a particular speaker.

Shri S. K. Dey: Our report says:

"In consultation with the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply, 100 rural housing projects covering 500 villages have been allotted to the States. These are to be located in selected Blocks. The States have been requested to set up rural housing cell, and Central Government have agreed to share 50 per cent of the cost. Socio-economic and a technical survey of the selected villages have also to be carried out."

This, of course, answers his question. The housing programme is just beginning. Although on ad hoc patterns, quite a number of houses have been built. I believe a little over 10,000 houses have been built all over the country in all the blocks.

Shri P. R. Patel: If he takes credit for ten thousand houses built in the rural areas for the community projects, why does he not take the credit for the children born in the project area?

Mr. Chairman: The Minister says that 10,000 houses have been built in the community projects through the agency of the community development blocks.

Shri S. K. Dey: I now come to health, education, social education and communications. Under the health programme we have tried to introduce family planning in which hon. Members were very deeply interested the other day. A little over 200 centres are already in operation in the rural areas. Similarly, a substantial number of primary health centres have been established, almost one in every community development block. There are also maternity and child welfare centres. There is an increase in the number of midwives and lady health visitors, compared to what existed two or three years ago. In the field of public health, there has been a large number of drinking-water wells. As for new wells, a little over 89,000 have been dug. Also, existing wells have been reconditioned. There are village lanes which have been paved. Drainage has been provided. Magan choolas are being constructed; but, of course, not at all in the measure in which we require these services.

In the field of education, we have tried to increase the number of village schools and also convert existing schools to basic schools to the extent we possibly can. In the field of village communications, village roads are being built. For the first time, we are also trying to make an attempt to get these new village roads, which are coming up under the community development programme, integrated with the programme of the Communications Ministry in the Centre. Negotiations are going on between the two Ministries on this subject, and we hope we shall be able to do something even better. In the field of women's programme, I am very sorry that our women in this country are too good....

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister should not be sorry.

Shri S. K. Dey: I say, too good to the point of damaging their own interests. It is very difficult to get women workers in the villages, and so much needs to be done particularly

for women and children in rural areas that, in fact, we can have even a larger number of workers in the women's field than in all other fields combined together. In spite of the fact that the community development programme makes substantial provision for the emoluments of women workers, we have not yet been able to have even half the number of women workers (as salaried employees) that we require either as school teachers or as *gram sevikas* or as women social education organisers.

Last year, we arrived at an understanding with the Central Social Welfare Board. That board put women for the first time in the map of India. Therefore, we thought that having arrived at an understanding and a co-ordinated method of working with that board, we shall be able to help the Social Welfare Board as well as help ourselves. We find that the Social Welfare Board are equally short of workers. They have to depend primarily on voluntary workers. Voluntary women workers prepared to work in rural areas from urban areas are very few. Excellent work is being done wherever good workers are available. If one wants to get women workers who wish to work up their appetite by going around in rural areas, of course, there is no difficulty. But as for workers who would be prepared to work very hard and almost forget themselves in the rural areas, they are very difficult to find, and the Social Welfare Board is suffering under the same difficulty as we have been suffering from earlier. Yet, progress is being made, and every year, an increasing number of women workers are coming forward.

For Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, we have opened up quite a number of multipurpose projects. We know these are the under-developed sections of our community who require the maximum assistance and support from Government. Here

again, I would say that what has been done so far for these tribes is only a fraction of what needs to be done. We have shortage of workers. Most of these people live in areas unconnected by communications, therefore, it becomes difficult to reach them. It becomes difficult to procure the services of workers who would be prepared to settle in these areas; whether they are government servants, doctors or medical personnel or even teaching personnel, the same thing applies. Yet, progress has been made. It is not what we wanted it to be. But we are struggling to improve it. We know that many hon. Members in this House are extremely eager to see that more is done. I would only say that no one can be more eager than I am to see that something more is done. And we are struggling and we are doing our very utmost. We are also trying to make a common cause with local workers, whom we can pick up from amongst the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people themselves. To the extent that such workers are available, they are being utilised and they are being harnessed to the task.

Shri Sonavane (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Does the sympathy of Government infiltrate to the people through the agency of Government in the development blocks?

Shri S. K. Dey: I could not understand the question.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member may make himself clear, because I do not think the House has understood his question.

Shri Sonavane: I wanted to know whether this sympathy of the Government was infiltrating to the people through the government employees working in the community development blocks.

Mr. Chairman: What the hon. Member wants to ask is how this sympathy is translated into practice through the agency of the administration.

Shri S. K. Dey: Effort is continuing. In fact, that is the problem before this Ministry here, to see that this Ministry is in a position to interpret the wishes of this House and transmit them without any attention in transit to the last worker. That is the problem, and we are continually making efforts to solve it.

Quite a number of suggestions have been made on the subject of training. We are ourselves not satisfied with the training that we have so far given to our workers. Therefore, we are bringing into the picture a new system of training. In this caste-ridden country, as soon as we appoint some people, they try to find out to what caste they belong in the Government. This of course holds good in the whole country and the government apparatus merely reflects fractionally what is there in the air.

Shri Tangamani: But our Finance Minister would not agree.

Shri S. K. Dey: So we are trying for the first time to bring all the workers receiving the same training together. Soon the training centre for the BDOs will be changed to be the training centre for all the block level workers. The Block Development Officer and all the 7 or 8 Extension officers will be given a common orientation so that they try to develop the attitude which we wish them to have. Of course, institutional training by itself is not enough. I will come to that question later. We also propose simultaneously to bring in from the field by rotation fairly appreciable numbers of our workers from the ground for refresher training. This applies as much to the workers at the block level as to the workers at the village level. We propose to have a Central Institute of Study. Last year, I mentioned it. I am very sorry to say that we have not been able to bring this Institute into being for the simple reason that in spite of all the efforts we could make, we could not get the staff we wanted for this Institute—and we did.

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not want merely another Institute just because we could get the government sanction for it. I am happy to say that this Institute is coming into being within about 2 or 2½ months from now. This Institute will train the top level workers at the districts and State levels. We are also trying to give training to panchayat members and panchayat secretaries. Now that this Ministry is being charged with the responsibility of administering the programme of panchayats—the panchayat being closely allied with the community development programme—we propose to utilise all the resources that we have at the ground level for giving the training needed for the panchayat secretaries and the panches. We also propose in the same way to give training in co-operation to the members of co-operatives. There are today 8 training centres giving training to 'co-operative' officers at the block level. As yet, we do not have training programmes for training the actual co-operators. We propose to take up that programme also, as soon as we possibly can handle it.

Shri Jadhav: What about the recommendations of the B. G. Mehta Committee?

Shri S. K. Dey: I am coming to that.

In administration, for the first time we are trying in this Ministry also to bring about a team approach to the programme. Instead of sending individual officers to the States visiting individual facets of the programme, we have already started calling from the States in the first place all their officers once for a review of what they have done during the year, what are the steps they have taken according to the directions that have been conveyed to them, what are the promises that they make and the expectations they have for the future. Then, a few months later, we begin visits to the States by a team of our officers representing all facets of the programme, including as far as possible, representatives of the Ministries at

the Centre. This team of officers goes to the States. They visit the various blocks, as many as they possibly can, and come back to the headquarters of the State, sit down with the heads of department of the State, discuss the common programme and failings and—arrive at a common understanding of what needs to be done. Minutes are drawn and the progress is watched and followed.

In the same way, we have tried at the Centre to build up co-ordinational arrangements with the Central Ministries. We have complete co-ordination at the moment with the Food and Agriculture Ministry. We are trying to establish co-ordinational arrangements with the Ministries of Health and Education. We already have such arrangements with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Now there is a new Ministry that is coming, and I am very happy about it, because for the first time this Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs will be able to give some organised guidance—at least I am looking for their assistance—to the folk art and culture in the villages on which alone all our economics in the past, all our life were based. And if we wish to improve life in the villages, it is obvious we shall have to revive the folk arts and folk culture through which we can energise village life.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: At the seminars that are being held, the whole evening is taken up by cultural programmes. Is it in any way contributing to the production of food?

Shri S. K. Dey: This country till now has believed in cultural programmes side by side with the rugged economic programme of the day. I have never seen an agricultural family in my life—and I come from a farmer's family—where any agricultural operation is ever taken up without some music and some cultural activity associated with it.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: They are granting only Rs. 40 for conducting

the three-day seminars for agriculturists. With this amount, how do Government expect cultural programmes to be conducted? What happens is that the agriculturists are approached to contribute something for them. That is why the villagers fear that if some seminar is to be conducted in their village, they would have to contribute, as only Rs. 40 is given for such programmes.

Shri S. K. Dey: We have so far had no difficulty with the village people. If they believe in a programme, they are prepared to sell their last shirt for it; but if they do not believe in it, it is another matter. The village people have not raised any objection so far to this. Wherever difficulties are experienced, we certainly would try to come to the aid of the villagers. There should be no difficulty at all.

Coming to Gramdan, as hon. Members are aware, we have had three series of discussions with the gramdan leaders and we are having another series of discussions in order to finalise the actual programme, during the next few days—in fact, it will start from the 15th of this month. The gramdan organisations have been trying to build up what we have been missing in the villages. They have been trying to build up the community by trying first to exterminate the causes that led to the disturbance of that community in the village, and the organisation handling the community development programme will get into it to do the reconstruction programme.

My hon. friend, Shri Tangamani, mentioned day before yesterday that in his particular area, he saw some of our BDOs going out to the village and trying to secure gramdan. I would say this is a departure from the practice that we have advocated. The understanding between the gramdan organisation and the Community Development Ministry is that the gramdan organisation will secure gramdan and immediately thereafter the Community Development Ministry will take up the work of reconstruction according to a pattern mutually

agreed upon between the gramdan organisation and the Ministry. So this is how the programme is developing. But I may mention again that simply an agreement between the Gramdan organisation and the Community Development Ministry is not enough. The Gramdan organisation also will have to build up their own organisation, and they are trying to. In fact, in the last meeting that we had with the gramdan workers headed by Shri Jaya Prakash Narain, it was agreed that there would now be some representation of the Gramdan movement in every district so that our organisation can know with whom they can associate. The main problem in this country is the shortage of workers; and this is not confined to government organisations only. Social organisations are also suffering from it.

About people's participation, a lot of complaints have been made that there is no popular initiative, and there is no popular enthusiasm. I would make a little distinction between popular initiative, and popular enthusiasm. If we say that people do not show enthusiasm in this programme, it is not right. I have seen about 700 Blocks out of 2100 Blocks and I have not yet come across a single area in the whole of India where people have not come forward with the most generous response where the government organisation has gone out to the people, met them and inspired them with their ideas and faith and given them their assistance. So, enthusiasm is there, in the people, in an abundant degree. That is why I feel guilty about it. There is so much to be done and there is so much enthusiasm in the people, but we are so limited in our capacity to give assistance to the people and there are so many difficulties which we cannot overcome in spite of everything we wish to do.

We know that popular initiative cannot be developed unless there are popular institutions. We have been

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thinking of these Block Advisory Committees and the District Development Committees and so on and we have been talking about participation of Parliament Members and Members of Legislative Assemblies and other representatives of the people. There have been complaints, as we have heard on the floor of this House during the past two days, that the party in power or the Government does not listen to the Opposition Members, or people who do not belong to the party in power. These complaints will continue, because, sometimes sand becomes hotter than the Sun. We have an understanding in this House that this is a national programme and we know it is a national programme. We get the State Governments to accept it as a national programme. But the understanding just mentioned is difficult to be transmitted to the government workers at the village level. It is equally difficult to transmit that understanding to the representatives of the people at the ground level. It is not merely the government agencies that have interfered with the smooth implementation of the directives from here; it is also the representatives of the people at the ground level and many other workers who are working there. The Balwant-ray Mehta Committee knew it.

Shri C. K. Nair: May I know if all the Members of Parliament are associated in their respective areas with Block Development Advisory Committees?

Mr. Chairman: That is not the case.

Shri C. K. Nair: Then, how has the complaint come from the Opposition?

Mr. Chairman: I do not think the hon. Member has a right to make a speech. He may put a question; but, he cannot make a speech at the moment. The hon. Minister may continue; he has not given in, I think.

Shri C. K. Nair: A point, Madam....

Mr. Chairman: Is it a point of order?

Shri C. K. Nair: The point of order is that the Opposition Members have referred to it that no Opposition Member is really associated and it is not really democratic if M.Ps and M.L.As of the local areas are not . . .

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. The hon. Member should not make a speech. He may put a question. I have allowed certain Members to put questions to the hon. Minister. The hon. Member has no right to make a speech now, explaining certain things that have been already explained by various other Members of this House. If the hon. Member desires to put a question to the hon. Minister, he may do so; but, no speech will be allowed at this stage.

Shri C. K. Nair: I wanted a clarification; I did not want to make a speech.

Shri S. K. Dey: The Members of Parliament are members of the Block Advisory Committees. Members of the Legislatures in their areas are in inevitably Members of the . . .

Shri Jadhav: What about nominations?

Shri P. R. Patel: May I put a question? I want . . .

Mr. Chairman: More than one hon. Member has made specific criticism about how the committees are formed, that Opposition Members are not represented. I think the hon. Minister will reply to that. It is not necessary now to enter into a cross-examination on that point.

Shri S. K. Dey: Members of Parliament and Members of the State Legislative Assemblies are members of the Block Advisory Committees. We have also introduced now the system of associating the sarpanches. In a number of States, the sarpanches of the Blocks are members of the Block Advisory Committees. In certain other States, a certain selected number of sarpanches are members of the Block

Advisory Committees. Apart from these, there are the representatives of other institutions like the Bharat Sevak Samaj, Sarwodaya Samaj, the Co-operative Societies and whatever other institutions are there. From each of these institutions, representatives are there in the Block Advisory Committees.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister may, if he can, explain the position with regard to the reference made to nominations.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi (Bilhaur): Are political parties going to be represented?

Shri S. K. Dey: There is no representative of a political party in this programme as a member of a political party. They can be there only in their representative capacity. Where nominations take place, these nominations are done either by the State Government or by the Collector or by the District Development Committee. There is no uniform procedure and I know it is not satisfactory. Therefore, we want to do something about it. To answer these possible problems, we want to give this democratic decentralisation a trial. This recommendation of democratic decentralisation suggested by the Balwantray Mehta Committee is a logical step forward towards the democracy that is functioning in this House, the democracy that is functioning at the State level. This democracy must travel down in a constitutional way so that people can function on their rights and not merely on courtesies depending on the whims of local officers or local politicians or others.

We have discussed this question threadbare with the State Governments. The State Governments have accepted the principle.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: And implementation?

Shri S. K. Dey: With regard to the question of implementation, as far as I know, only two State Governments have so far come forward to imple-

ment the programme. One is the Andhra State and the other is Madras. I would tell this House the difficulties in the way of the State Governments. I know there is a State, not very far from Delhi, where the Chief Minister and the Ministers of the Cabinet, all of them, were eager to bring about democratic decentralisation and they thought they would be strengthening their hands by calling a conference of the panches of the State. Two thousand sarpanches of the State assembled there and I had an opportunity of going and describing and explaining to them the meaning of this democratic decentralisation, the independence, the new responsibilities and the new authority that it means at the ground level. They smiled and I thought they had accepted it.

Shri Tangamani: Is it Rajasthan?

Shri S. K. Dey: Within a few hours, the people went back and were completely changed. Next morning they said they had nothing to do with democratic decentralisation and they were content with the powers they enjoyed because they were led to believe that it was an attempt on the part of Government to rob them of the powers they enjoyed. How can the Government tackle this? Even in Andhra I have not information that people are out to destroy this particular measure which the Andhra Government as a progressive Government is trying to enact, because it cuts at the root of the privileges of many people there. They do not like democracy. Therefore, this democratic decentralisation cannot be brought about simply by the issue of a mandate from this House, or simply by the issue of a mandate by the National Development Council. No Chief Minister of a State can get this implemented unless the people are actually demanding it, unless they are crying for it...

Shri Yadhav: What is the criterion to know whether they are demanding it or not?

Shri S. K. Dey: All the influential people must get to the country-side and make the people a party to demanding from the Government the delegation of these powers; and, if that is not done, this will not work. Some States, of course, will try to implement this programme. I am completely convinced about it, that powers cannot be given; they to be taken. We had to take power from the Britishers; we did not get it. *(Interruption)* Powers have to be taken.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister will have to conclude in 10 minutes. Private Members' Business has to commence. So, I request the hon. Minister to wind up his remarks.

Shri S. K. Dey: I have dealt with the revised training programme. We are now thinking of having the programme in two phases. The first and the second phases would obliterate the distinction between the National Extension Service and the Community Development blocks. We are convinced that this will improve the tone of the programme considerably. When more funds are provided in the second phase, it will help in bridging the yawning gap that now exists between the rural and the urban areas. It will strengthen the base of the programme.

I have mentioned about democratic decentralisation. If I may say in all humility, we have the biggest community project of the world in this House. I have been here for the past one year and six months. I have never been conscious of the fact that somebody belongs to the Opposition and somebody belongs to the Ruling Party so far as my subject is concerned. I have known that every single Member in this House has been equally interested in the programme. In the past we had the division of the country because we had Hindu *pani* and Muslim *pani*. That has disappeared. Thank God for it. We do not want to have in the villages a Congress road, a PSP road, a Communist road

or a Jan Sangh road. The roads belong to the village people as a whole... *(Interruptions)*. The drinking water, the school, the community centre—in fact all the amenities that we are trying to create at the village level belong to all the people. I have not yet come across any Member belonging to any Party differing with the objective of the programme. Of course, between the objective and the accomplishment there is a gap. I know that we are trying to narrow that gap and are struggling as honestly as we can. We received during the past one year a considerable amount of assistance from the hon. Members of this House. They have participated very actively in the consultative committees and given us their advice. They have gone out and visited the projects and discussed with the State Governments about the shortfall in the programme and have given reports which have been of enormous help. I have had more than 100 references from hon. Members of this House. It has helped very materially. They belong to all the political parties. We have tried in whatever way we possibly can to influence the State Government in the management of the programme. Previously I received 65 references from 65 Members. I believe that in the future I would receive not 150 references but at least 6500 references about our programme.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Rai Bareilly): Are they certificates?

Shri S. K. Dey: They are references on the programmes that they have seen in the field on which they wanted correctives to be applied. It has helped very materially in our programme.

2-54 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

An Hon. Member: At cross roads?

Shri S. K. Dey: At the village level....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker:....there is no confusion, I suppose.

Shri S. K. Dey: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, at the village level, we are aware that there is a vacuum. There is vacuum because the intelligentsia has migrated from the villages. The representatives of the people also do not have the opportunity of giving continuous guidance to the village people because they are occupied elsewhere. This vacuum is inevitably filled by people who believe in casteism, parochialism and parasitism. There is no oversimplified answer to this problem. It is expected that the Government apparatus should try to deliver the goods under this programme. The risk that we run is that when the influences at the ground level are overwhelming, even the Government apparatus there can become or is liable to become an accomplice of these reactionary forces. Therefore, it is not possible for the Government apparatus alone to deliver this programme.

I mentioned this last year and I repeat it this year again. To the extent that this apparatus is buttressed and supported by the people's organisation and the people's representatives at the ground level, the Government apparatus will be effective. It will function democratically promote democracy and will try to get the active participation of the people. There will then be popular initiative. To the extent that these forces are not functioning there, the programme will suffer.

Our workers in the major part of India today are giving as much as they possibly can. The Development Commissioners are all people who have almost been cut out of their families. I may make a confession that I hardly have the courage to meet the wife of any Development Commissioner for the simple reason that these people are being drawn out of their homes and there is almost a talk that there should be a society for the prevention of cruelty to wives... (Interruptions.)

In the field also, there are a large number of workers, block development officers and others.

Shri Hem Barna (Gauhati): Why is it that the hon. Minister should go beating about the wives of the officials?

Shri S. K. Dey: To enlist their participation and co-operation in the programme.

An Hon. Member: Is it part of the community development?

Shri S. K. Dey: Of course. While a large number of our workers are trying to do as much as they possibly can, there is also a minority of our workers who are not doing what they should. They are trying to perpetuate what we knew in the past, the *tehsildar raj*. In fact sometime back, the hon. Members might have read in the *Kurukshetra* the open letter which I myself wrote to His Highness the Block Development Officer of an unknown place. I described what such people were.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I was told that it was the case of His Majesty writing to His Highness.

Shri S. K. Dey: We are trying to bring pressure and see that they are corrected.

Yet I know that over-much of initiative from the Centre is not a good thing; if we are to promote democracy, we must decentralise even initiative. If too much of initiative is taken by the Centre, in the short run results can of course be very spectacular than otherwise, but in the long run no Ministry in the Centre can ever be big and competent enough to implement the programme of this character, encompassing a population of 400 millions as we are going to be. It is impossible. Therefore, we have to decentralise the initiative and responsibility to the State Governments. We are quite proud to tell the House on behalf of the Ministry that we have

[Shri S. K. Dey]

delegated complete powers to the State Governments in the implementation of this programme, almost to the point of abnegation of the Ministry itself. Complete powers have been vested in the State Government and the only power that rests in the Central Ministry is the allotment of the annual blocks and making of advances against certified statements from the Accountant-General. These are not powers. Whatever powers the Central Ministry possesses in this programme is the power of influence. Whatever knowledge we try to acquire from different States with their varied experience of different areas, we try to make these available to all the State Governments and to the extent we are helpful to the State Governments, we are welcome. So far we have been welcomed by the State Governments.

I know the anxiety of this House to see that our programme moves much more effectively than in the past. Who could be more delighted to look forward to it than I, to see that this programme makes a more effective contribution? If the Central Ministry were to take greater initiative, the danger is that eventually the Central Ministry will be a stranglehold on the States. And, we will hamper from the centre the democratic process that we are trying to develop in the States. There is, therefore, only one alternative. If the Central Ministry cannot take the initiative, the State Governments have to take the initiative and the representatives of the people at the State level will have to take the initiative. How can I make them take the initiative? One Minister, Sir, cannot be a substitute in this matter for this House. If I am to build a dam, a science laboratory or construct some roads, it is a technical problem for which it is sufficient that I get the technical people, give them instructions and the money and material required for it. Where we have 365 million problems, and each one is a problem by itself, it is

not possible for one Minister to administer this programme over this whole country and develop initiative on the people.

It is on this account, therefore, that I have to rely increasingly on the hon. Members of this House. I know they have not only given me understanding and sympathy on this programme but wherever possible they have tried to join me in my visits to the States and going round with me till two o'clock early in the morning, to see the works jointly with me. I would like to appeal to this House to give me this co-operation in a much greater measure. In future I will have to make this call on every single Member. To the extent that I get this assistance I will be effective. So far as I am personally concerned, I have been working to endurance and I will continue to do so. I have been trying to get out of the officials of the Ministry almost as much as they could give to their capacity, very little more than that can be expected of them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is exactly my case at this moment. My capacity is also just over.

Shri S. K. Dey: Sir, I will conclude in another two minutes. Of course, a lot more can be done at the ground level. But how do we do it? The hon. Members of this House would be very happy to hear that this programme has ceased to be a merely Indian programme. A large number of countries situated as we are, like Indonesia, Philippines, Burma, Ceylon, Iraq, Iran, Ethiopia, Egypt and almost all countries situated as we are have taken the responsibility for running this programme. We have had a large number of Government representatives of these States coming over to India making a study tour of this programme. We have quite a number of our seasoned workers from Government who are now functioning in some of these States assisting their Governments in implementing this programme. Therefore, in a way this

programme has ceased to be a purely Indian programme; it has become a global programme. Now we want to make a success of this programme not merely for the sake of India. A large number of countries situated as we are, constituting more than half the population of the world, are intending to run this programme in the same way as we are. Therefore, it becomes all the more necessary for us to make it the success that we all want.

We cannot do it unless we make a national effort, not merely here but at all levels, and in this I am very greatly dependent on what I can draw from this House and from the hon. Members.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put all the cut motions together to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

Shri V. P. Nayar: How bad!

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But nothing strange. I shall now put the Demands for Grants.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts in the fourth column of the order paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 6, 7 and 107 relating to the Ministry of Community Development."

(The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.)

Demand No. 6—Ministry of Community Development

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 20,16,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Ministry of Community Development'."

Demand No. 7—Community Development Projects and National Extension Service

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,03,83,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Community Development Projects and National Extension Service'."

Demand No. 107—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Community Development

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,13,91,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Community Development'."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up the Private Members' Business. There are some Bills to be introduced.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, I would like to submit one thing. Non-official Business was to have started at 2.30 whereas it is now 3.05. So more than half an hour has been lost.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will sit longer and make up for the time lost. Non-official business would not at all suffer.

provide for payment of maternity and medical benefit to them."

The motion was adopted.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: introduce the Bill.

INDIAN CONTRACT (AMENDMENT) BILL*

Shri S. C. Samanta (Tamluk): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Contract Act, 1872.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Contract Act, 1872."

The motion was adopted.

Shri S. C. Samanta: I introduce the Bill.

UNTOUCHABILITY (OFFENCES) AMENDMENT BILL*

(Amendment of Sections No. 3 and 4)

Shri Siddiah (Mysore-Reserved Sch. Castes): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Siddiah: I introduce the Bill.

ALL INDIA MATERNITY BENEFIT BILL*

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barrister): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to prevent the employment of women in factories, plantations and other establishments for sometime before and sometime after confinement and to provide for payment of maternity and medical benefit to them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to prevent the employment of women in factories, plantations and other establishments for sometime before and sometime after confinement and to

INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Sections 497 and 498)

Shri Subiman Ghose (Burdwan): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Subiman Ghose: I introduce the Bill.

**CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE
(AMENDMENT) BILL—Contd.**

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on the motion moved by Shri Jagdish Awasthi on the 21st March, 1958, that the Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, be taken into consideration. Out of 2 hours allotted for discussion of the Bill, 1 hour 11 minutes was taken up on 21-3-1958, and 49 minutes are still available. Shri B. Das Gupta may now continue his speech.

Shri B. Das Gupta (Purulia): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in Purulia it was a regular feature that armed processionists with lethal weapons paraded the streets with threatening slogans. They threatened the Bengalis with destruction. This was done, Sir, under the patronage of the police and the executives. They were organised, protected and encouraged by the police. These happened not long ago but in January, 1956. Section 144 was not meant for them or for these activities.

But when a peaceful public meeting was organised to voice the disapproval of these atrocities, Section 144 was always there to prevent the legitimate expression for preserving peace. I would refer to the incidents of 21st January, 1956 at Purulia.

There was actual looting in the Purulia Town by these processionists in broadday light. There was no attempt by the authority to prevent this. I would request the hon. Minister just to go there once and know the facts before, if he wants to defend the justification of this section.

Amongst the innumerable instances, I will cite merely one or two facts. I take first the Barabazar Bengali High School in the Purulia district, previously in Bihar and now in West Bengal. It was one of the best institutions managed by a managing committee. In pursuance of a policy of overall Hindisation since 1948, the

school became one of the main targets. There were official onslaughts after onslaught on the managing committee of this school for its mending or ending. But the committee and the people stood firm. There was a prolonged struggle in which section 144 played a prominent part. Before I proceed further, I would like to inform the House that ultimately the Supreme Court upheld the claims of the managing committee and the people against the Government of Bihar. In this tug of war between the constitutional right of the people and the design of the executives of a Government, the misuse of section 144 belittled even its previous function during the British imperialistic regime.

It is a long story. To be brief, from 7th March to 6th May, 1955, within these two months, section 144 was promulgated four times to get a Bengali school out of the hands of a managing committee or to prevent its legitimate functioning. The crime was that the committee or the people did not surrender their fundamental and constitutional right of their own language. The people were not cowed down by the orgy of violence of the few Hindi protagonists of that place who were the instruments of the ruling power. They contested and challenged these orders under section 144 in the court and the High Court every time upheld the claims of the managing committee and the people. It was really regrettable to see that how even the orders of the High Court and the Supreme Court were circumvented by the executors of the law by fresh promulgation of this section on imaginary pleas.

By the orders under this section 144, the Headmaster, the members of the managing committee and even the students were all prevented from entering their own school. The orders prohibited the guardians from assembling and deciding the future of their wards not to speak

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of any public congregation. It is interesting to know that in all these cases, the Government was the first party. In the judgment on the 26th May, 1955, the hon. S. K. Das, the then Chief Justice of the Patna High Court observed:

"The obstacles put up by the Government and the other executive officers create grounds for breach of the peace, to promulgate section 144 just as section 188," etc.

He further observed:

"When one side is the State there is no likelihood of breach of the peace between the two parties. It always takes two to make a quarrel. Hence it seems that the executive officers in this particular case have acted like interested persons. Students have a right to join the school and a preventive order, section 144, has been passed upon the students not to join the school".

The orgy of violence by the Hindi protagonists of that place under the shelter of the authority has been discussed in this very House time and again. While violence, organised threats, breach of the peace and deliberate unlawful activities became the order of the day, this preventive section, drugged and sheathed, was carefully confined to the statute book. With my experience, I may say it with impunity that this preventive section has been seldom applied for preventing the real anti-social activities. It is more applied for their protection.

In my district of Purulia, I have seen this section 144 being used to ban even the staging of an approved drama by the primary school boys on the occasion of the Netaji Jayanti in 1953, because they happened to be Bengalis. A further worse application of a law in a democratic country cannot be imagined.

I now come to a case at Nagpur.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are only 49 minutes left. There are a number of Members who desire that they may be given an opportunity to participate in the debate. 20 minutes are required by the hon. Minister. 10 minutes are to be given for the reply by the Mover himself. So, 30 minutes have gone. At 3 30 I have to call the hon. Minister. I have only called four Members from the Opposition, none from this side. So, I will have to call at least one. The others will be disappointed.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): They are not likely to speak on such a Bill.

Shri B. Das Gupta: I shall cut short my speech as far as possible.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I can very well understand the anxiety of the hon. Members, but my difficulty is they never raised any objection whether the time allotted was sufficient or not when the recommendation of the Business Advisory Committee was brought before the House. They then agreed to it. Afterwards, objection is taken. When the House has taken a particular decision can I get over it? Now, the hon. Member will be very brief. He may conclude soon though I am sure he has many things to say.

Shri B. Das Gupta: I am just concluding. There were two cases at Nagpur, and there were cases at Jharia and Dhanbad. For paucity of time, I am not going to mention them. But it was naturally expected that section 144 would be repealed or at least be applied very cautiously in the new context, after Independence. Instead of that, we find they are only vigilant to suppress the legitimate claims and interests of the worker. That is my experience. The Government should compile the statistics of the number

of occasions when this section was promulgated during the last ten years and place it before the House, and then should justify its retention. It has become an easy weapon in the hands of the unbalanced executives with deadly results. There is a provision for cancelling a gun licence if it is misused, but the deliberate misuse of this section 144 which is more deadly is never even questioned by the Government. There are strictures by the courts in many cases. May I know how many such cases have been dealt with seriously and severely by the Government?

Sir, though it is regrettable, the fact is that after these 10 years of freedom, people are feeling that only the flesh has changed and not the spirit. I know what the hon. Minister is going to say in reply, and that is the tragedy why though unwilling I am forced to read some lines of Sir William Incent, the then Home Member, while introducing the Rowlatt Bill in 1919. He said:

"We have no desire to restrict the liberty of persons further than a compelling sense of duty forces us to do. At the same time, we are responsible for the public peace in this country, and it is our duty to take such measures as may be necessary to secure that. No other remedy has been suggested in regard to this form of crimes as yet for attaining that object. If, however, any effective remedy is proposed, the Government of India will be only too glad to consider it. There seems, however, to me to some misunderstanding as to the nature of the disruptive forces of this anarchism. There are those apparently who look upon these men as innocent patriots, guilty of nothing save an excess of possibly mistaken zeal. My Lord, I ask the Council to get rid of this de-

lusion. These men are not patriots; they are really enemies of civilization, they are enemies of progress and enemies of any form of organised government."

This law is their creation. I shall eagerly wait for what the hon. Minister is going to say about this obnoxious law today. Then we will see whether with the change of flesh, the spirit has also really changed or not.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Raghubir Sahai.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I have five minutes?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have called four Members from the opposition. There should be at least one Member from that side and then there will be no time left.

Shri Raghubir Sahai (Budaun): Before coming to the merits of the Bill, I would like to say a word or two about the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to this Bill. With your permission, I would say that it is really a very ill-thought out statement. In para 1 the Member says.

"The Bill seeks to delete section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, as it restricts the right of freedom of assembly and the right of freedom of speech."

It appears that the hon. Member who has drafted this Bill is labouring under the impression that he has got unrestricted right of speech and of assembly. If we refer to article 19 of the Constitution—I think that must have been before his mind's eye—we will have to read clauses (a) and (b) along with para (2) and (3). Para (2) says:

"Nothing in sub-clause a of clause (1) shall affect the operation of any existing law, or pre-

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vent the State from making any law, in so far as such law imposes reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right conferred by the said sub-clause in the interests of the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence.

Para (8) reads:

Nothing in sub-clause (b) of the said clause shall affect the operation of any existing law in so far as it imposes, or prevent the State from making any law imposing, in the interests of public order or morality, reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the right conferred by the said sub-clause."

So, this right of freedom of speech and freedom of assembly is a qualified right.

In para (2) of the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the hon. Member says:

"This provision essentially arms the Executive with power to be used only in an emergency such as in epidemics etc. but the Government resorts to it in normal times...." etc.

With your permission, I may draw the attention of the House to the provisions of Section 144. In sub-clause (1) it says:

"....if there is sufficient ground for proceeding under this section and immediate prevention or speedy remedy is desirable."

In the succeeding para it says:

"....if such Magistrate considers that such direction is

likely to prevent, or tends to prevent obstruction, annoyance or injury, or risk of obstruction, annoyance or injury, to any person lawfully employed, or danger to human life, health or safety, or a disturbance of the public tranquillity, or a riot, or an affray."

In these circumstances—and they are very many—the provisions of this section can be employed.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Are there not other provisions? That is not the only provision.

Shri Raghunath Sahai: There are, which you can read when your turn comes.

It has been alleged by all the four hon. Members that have preceded me that this section has been misused by so many magistrates. From what I can understand, I find that speeches of a political nature have been made and the imputation has been made that the section has been misused in order to down opposite political opinions and opinions that were not liked by the Government. The hon. mover and the seconder gave us the example of Kanpur that it is virtually a city where the operation of this section is raging for the last ten years. It may or may not be so; but I agree with hon. Members who have spoken in support of this Bill that the section should not be used for political reasons and wherever this section has been so abused, according to these very hon. Members, the error was rectified either by the Sessions Court or by the High Court or by the Supreme Court.

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta—East): After the mischief was done.

Shri Raghunath Sahai: Misuse of every section can be made. I put it to my hon. friends who have made speeches here; which section of the

Cr.P.C. or I.P.C. has not been misused and by so many courts? Take the case of section 302,.... (Interruptions). There is no use interrupting me. Take the case of any section....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does the hon. Member allege that every section is being abused?

Shri Raghunir Sahai: Most of the sections of the Cr.P.C. are.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): If I have understood him correctly, he said—possibly without meaning it that there was misuse of certain sections by courts. It is very unfortunate.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That reflection should not be made. The hon. Member might not agree with the decisions that the courts have come to. But it cannot be said that they misused the section and perhaps the hon. Member also does not mean it.

Shri Raghunir Sahai: I do not mean that.

Shri Datar: It may be changed and some other expression might be put.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now that it has been made clear that the hon. Member did not mean that there was any deliberate attempt on the part of the courts to make wrong use of it, there is no need to correct anything that has been said so far. He only meant that it has not been rightly administered by persons who were in charge or that some errors had been committed.

Shri Raghunir Sahai: I entirely accept the interpretation that has been put by you and it was never my intention to cast any aspersion upon any court.

Shri Narayanankutty Memon (Mukundapuram): Just now he

mentioned that misuse could be made by whomsoever exercising the powers under section 144. The executive magistrate, when he promulgates section 144, makes a judicial order and if at all any criticism has to be made, it should be that the powers under section 144 are being misused.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is a different thing altogether. When the District Magistrate exercise that discretion given to him under that section, it is quite a different thing from the judicial decisions that are given by the courts when it goes to the courts. They are quite distinct things.

Shri Raghunir Sahai: What I mean to say is that, as was alleged by our friends who have spoken in support of this Bill, wherever this section has been misused or abused... that depends upon what view they take.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are two different things—one is promulgation of an order under section 144 and the other is the accused being brought before the court. The hon. Member was misled, because members who are on this side, when they said that this was being misused, only mentioned the names of those magistrates and those executive officers who promulgated and applied it to certain circumstances. The hon. Member has rather confused it with the other aspect.

Shri Narayanankutty Memon: He is perfectly entitled to!

Shri Raghunir Sahai: Even in the case of promulgation, according to our friends, it is a misuse. What I wanted to say is that the abuse or misuse or right use of a section is a matter of opinion. I was going to give a concrete instance. A case is brought before a First Class Magistrate under section 302. After preliminary enquiry it is referred to the

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sessions court. Now, after all the evidence has been gone through by the prosecution and by the defence, the sessions court comes to the conclusion that the offender is guilty under section 302, and he awards him capital punishment on the basis of the material or record that is before him. Now, as is his right he can take the matter to the High Court, and on that very material the High Court comes to the conclusion that the guilt has not been brought home to the accused and it acquits him. Now, according to these persons, it can be said that section 302 was abused, misused or whatever it may be.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Or used.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: That can be applied to any case or circumstance.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is landing himself into difficulties. It is not misuse by the court in that case. There may be two different opinions. As to whether the circumstances warranted conviction or not, one court thinks that it should end in conviction; the other court thinks that the material is not sufficient. They are quite distinct. It is an honest difference of opinion. One man may draw one opinion from a set of circumstances and statements; the other may not believe them and say it is not sufficient. So, these two things are quite distinct from what is stated here.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: We were referring to discrimination under section 144.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: A section can be used in a particular manner by a certain court and a superior court can take an entirely different view. It has happened in these cases also.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Yes, section 144 has been promulgated.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: Section 144 is promulgated by a District Magistrate or S.D.M.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not want to interrupt again and again. I am afraid the hon. Member crosses the line and says the same thing again.

There are two things. Firstly, the magistrate promulgates an order. Then comes the accused; a man is challenged for defying that order and is taken to the court. One court may think that he has defied the order. Another court may think that he has not defied it. That is a different thing altogether. Misuse has been alleged by this side only in the proceedings that are taken earlier than it is being taken to the judicial court.

Shri Subiman Ghose: Let the magistrate be charged for the wrong promulgation!

Shri Sadhan Gupta: The whole faith is questioned.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: The District Magistrate can start proceedings under section 144 when he comes to the conclusion that the ingredients of section 144 are complied with. Now, there can be difference of opinion on whether the section has been properly used or not properly used. That concession will have to be given if a magistrate has taken recourse to the promulgation of section 144, say, against me or against my friends. Well, I may feel that the promulgation....

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: On a point of order. The hon. Member refers to the exercise of the magisterial function of convicting a person for violation of section 144. The point here is that when section 144 is promulgated, it is a subjective satisfaction of the magistrate, and that is liable to be misused, and

not about bringing a man under section 144 and starting criminal proceedings against him.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is what I was trying to do. The hon. Member has said it in much better terms than I did.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: The whole faith is in question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member only means to say that in the cases that have been referred to by the hon. Members they thought that the promulgation was unjustified, the circumstances did not warrant the passing or promulgation of such an order. The hon. Member says: No, the district magistrates have differed from the hon. Members; they thought that, there were certain circumstances that warranted the promulgation of these orders. Therefore, opinions can differ. That is what, perhaps, the hon. Member means.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Has he finished?

Shri Raghbir Sahai: There can be a difference of opinion on whether a magistrate has misused his powers in promulgating an order under section 144. Even then people have got a right to appear, and say what they like against the order promulgated under section 144 Cr. P.C. He should file a written statement and if he is not satisfied even with that.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Even now the hon. Member is confusing promulgation. It need not necessarily bring any accused before the court. Promulgation has got nothing to do with it. It is the prohibition of doing certain things, checking certain things. Unless the order is defied, there is no question of anyone being arrested. Now, I would request the hon. Member to be brief and conclude his remarks.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: In those cases there are *ex parte* orders.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: According to hon. Members opposite whenever those orders were taken either to the sessions court or to the High Court, strictures were passed and they disapproved it and stated that section 144 should not have been applied. Now, what are our appellate courts for? Why have they been established? Only to rectify the mistakes of the lower courts. We should be proud of our judiciary; we should be proud of the independence of our judiciary. Look at the Chagla Commission Report. Look at the awards of so many election tribunals.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No member, in respect of this particular Bill at least, even in the previous day has questioned the integrity or the impartiality of the judicial courts.

Shri V. P. Nayar: He wants to support this?

Shri Raghbir Sahai: The hon. Members wanted this section 144 to be repealed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So that the magistrate may not pass an order; promulgate an order under that section.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: So that they may not be armed with that power.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: Kindly be indulgent to me. Let me put my point of view. The contention of the hon. Members opposite is, that it has been used against political parties, to put down unions, to put down opposite political views. My contention is that it is not so, because there are higher courts and the orders of the lower courts can always be set aside.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It should not go to the courts at all.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: That question does not arise.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: According to section 144, it is not only to regulate expression of public opinion or political opinion but for so many other purposes in the interest of maintaining law and order. Section 144 has been in existence, say, for the last 60 years.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Hundred years less one year.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: Then there was no Congress movement or Socialist satyagraha.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think I also will have to promulgate section 144 here.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: We welcome that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Members are creating some justification for that.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: It is on the Treasury Benches not here.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: For instance, there are disputes about bazars and hats in villages. There are disputes about use of water for irrigation. There are disputes about processions and meetings. All these are required to be regulated under Section 144. So, my submission is.....

Shri Braj Raj Singh: For that Section 145 is there.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: That is not so. It is wrong interpretation. It is not meant for that. Section 145 is meant for immovable property.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, the hon. Member must conclude.

Shri Raghbir Sahai: Section 144 is meant for all these things and if we take away Section 144, then law and order cannot be maintained in the rural as well as in the urban areas. So, I am opposed to this Bill tooth and nail.

श्री जयराज सिंह : मिनिस्टर महोदय
किस वक्त इस का जवाब दें, वे क्या वह

बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जब से हिन्दुस्तान
आजाद हुआ तब से जब तक इस सेक्शन
१४४ का प्रोमल्गेशन ऐसे कितने केसब
में हुआ है जिनमें राजनितिक लोगों के खिलाफ
कार्रवाई की गई, राजनितिक विरोधियों के
बाहेर वह ट्रेड यूनियन मूवमेंट हो चाहे किसान
ग्रान्दोलन हो। दूसरी चीज यह कि यदि
मिनिस्टर महोदय इस को हटाने के लिये
तैयार नहीं हैं तो क्या इस बात के लिये
तैयार होंगे कि जब भी किसी मैजिस्ट्रेट
के जरिये दफा १४४ को लागू किया जाय
तो बिना इस बात का इंतजार किये हुए
कि प्राइवेट आदमी हाई कोर्ट्स में उस को
बैधता का चुनौती देने के लिये जायें, जब
भी इस तरह का कानून लागू हो तो वह हाई
कोर्ट के सामने पेश किया जाये कि वह वैध
है या नहीं? क्या इस तरह का कानून बनाया
जायगा?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while listening to the speeches of the hon. Members opposite, one was likely to get the impression that Section 144 has been meant only for the purpose of stifling the opposition. The purpose of Section 144 has to be read very carefully and I am afraid that the hon. Members, who spoke and others who are silently supporting them, are more or less making a political capital out of this Bill, otherwise this Bill has no justification at all. Let us take into account the facts and the circumstances under which this particular Section 144 has to be brought into force.

You will agree that so far as Governments are concerned....

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: We will not agree.

Shri Datar: If you do not agree, then you allow me to proceed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Of course, that is the privilege of the hon. Minister. Even if the Opposition does not agree, he has to proceed. So, he might be allowed to proceed.

Shri Datar: I hope every hon. Member will agree....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: My agreement is always supposed to be there. Whether an hon. Member speaks on this side or on that side it is always taken for granted.

Shri Datar: My submission to this House is that we have to look at this question from a practical and realistic point of view. If an administration is to be carried on—if a civilised administration is to be carried on—and if threats to law and order in a particular part of the country are there, then Government has got to use this particular Section with a view to prevent the creation of anarchy. Therefore I would like to point out to hon. Members there that so far as the purpose of this Section is concerned, it has been mentioned very clearly and I would request hon. Members to note these words:

".....if such Magistrate considers that....."

An order has to be promulgated under Section 144, only after considering all the circumstances so far as law and order is concerned. Then what he has to see is that "....such direction is likely to prevent...."

The House will kindly understand that the order is of a preventive nature.

".....or tends to prevent obstruction, annoyance or injury.."

These words may be noted. Obstruction to the lawful carrying out of even private duties—that may be noted—and then annoyance—annoyance is, affecting or wounding the minds or sentiments of the people in spite of certain rights—they might be either private rights or even public rights—and then we have got injury. Sometimes injury is also threatened and unless something has been done by the District Magistrate or by the Magistrate specially empowered in this connection to prevent or to avert such an injury, then naturally greater harm, greater injury

and greater damage would accrue to the people concerned.

".....or risk of obstruction, annoyance or injury to any person lawfully employed....."

15:45 hrs.

[SHRIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTY in the Chair.]

We have to understand the expression "lawfully". When a man has been carrying on his work in a lawful manner, then it is not merely a right but it is an obligation of the authorities and of the Government to see to it that the private person is entitled to carry on his duties as lawfully and as properly as possible. It has been further pointed out here—it has nothing to do with political objectives and hon. Members opposite endlessly and perhaps uselessly spoke with vigour.

".....or danger to human life, health or safety, or a disturbance of the public tranquillity, or a riot or an affray."

Therefore you will see that so far as these objectives or purposes are concerned, it is the duty of the magistrate to see whether there are any forces that are trying to create conditions which are absolutely wrong and which are harmful to the proper carrying out of their respective duties or to public tranquillity. So these are all the circumstances that have to be taken into account and as my friend rightly pointed out in the concluding portion of his speech that this Section 144 has a use or has uses apart from what the hon. Members are thinking, viz., that the desire of the party in power of the Government is the stifling opposition or to prevent the exercise of certain fundamental rights.

So far as the question of fundamental rights is concerned, it would be found that in the very articles of the Constitution where certain rights have been given to the people, it has been stated that the question of public order is of paramount importance. If public order is likely to be affected adversely, naturally there can be no question of this private exercise of fundamental rights. In other words, fundamental

[Shri Datar]

rights have to subordinate themselves to the need for maintaining public order. That is almost the basis on which any Government can carry on. I wish to point out instances where the powers given to the executives are far larger and are expensive than what the powers with the Governments in India.

Under the circumstances, I would like to point out to this House that so far as Section 144 is concerned, it has been conceived of in the highest interests of the security of the country, in the first place to prevent disturbance of public peace and secondly, which is also equally important, to see that a class of persons or certain persons who are entitled to carry out their avocations—their lawful avocations—in a proper and peaceful manner are able to do so.

15.49 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

When peace is likely to be threatened, for example when certain acts are likely to be done by certain persons, then it is the primary duty of the authorities concerned and the Government to step in. I know cases where even a slight delay of about half-an-hour in passing an order under Section 144 unfortunately led to the deaths of about seven persons. We have to be extremely careful. The man on the spot, as you are aware, has to be trusted and his obligation is to see to it that nothing untoward happens. Because, that particular Magistrate, the District Magistrate or the Chief Presidency Magistrate, as the case may be, is responsible for maintaining law and order. Law and order includes not merely public tranquillity, but also circumstances in which the law-abiding people will carry on their avocations, their means of livelihood in as peaceful a manner as possible. This side has not been looked into, perhaps has been ignored by hon. Members opposite and they needlessly waxed eloquent over section 144 which they wrongly contended was an engine of

oppression. It is not an engine of oppression at all.

Shri S. M. Banerjee rose—

Shri Datar: Let the hon. Member wait. It has been used. *(Interruption)*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister is not yielding.

Shri Datar: It has been used only for the purpose of preventing greater injury, only for the purpose of seeing to it that people carry on their activities in as peaceful and as legitimate a manner as possible. We know that there are forces here or there which are interested not in maintaining law and order, not in allowing people to carry on as they have to so far as their legitimate work is concerned, but are working either for creating any unrest or for fishing in unrest wherever unrest comes up. All this has to be checked. Government will be abdicating their duty if, for example, they do not pass a proper order under section 144 whenever it is called for. Therefore, I would submit that section 144 is a very important section. It is of a preventive nature. Precaution has to be taken. I submit, in a number of cases where it has nothing to do with political opposition such orders have been passed.

As you are also aware in England, I may point out a simple instance where section 144 is necessary. Here, we are carrying on peaceful fight in Parliament because there is section 144 order round about. Here in India, we are modest enough to have only a smaller area of operation of section 144. I shall point out in a few minutes what the conditions are so far as Westminster in England is concerned. There, they pass such orders, more stringent orders than what we can do in India to the extent not only of one mile in certain cases, but in other cases, two miles or more.

You will find that so far as this section is concerned, it is one of the most important sections, one of the most beneficial sections in the sense that harm is prevented, danger is prevented and proper action will have

the effect of putting down all elements which are working for disorder. Because, after all, you would agree that it is the elementary duty of the Government. I am prepared to submit that we are dealing with problems of administration. We need not in this case consider the question of welfare State. It is a larger question. But, the primary duty of a Government, whatever might be the type of Government—it may be an autocratic Government, it might be a feudal Government if you like, it might be a democratic Government, it might be a republican Government as we are—its primary duty is to maintain law and order. If we do not maintain law and order, the further structure of the welfare State that has to be raised by us will not be raised at all. Therefore, you have to look at this question from the larger point of view and then you will be satisfied that the provisions of section 144 are of a salutary kind.

The next question that would arise, the question which my hon. friend raised, is whether this section has been used very widely. May I point out that this section has not been used except where it has been found absolutely essential?

An Hon. Member: Question.

Shri Datar: Then, he wanted to send the papers to the High Court and have the order finally checked or supervised and amended or annulled by the High Court. So far as High Courts are concerned, may I point out that they have powers of revision? There are rulings also which say that an order under section 144 is a judicial order. But, the rulings have further pointed out that after all. When an order has to be passed by a magistrate under section 144, he is the best judge of the situation. Therefore, generally, the High Courts are loath to interfere with this exercise of power by a magistrate except when there are certain extraordinary circumstances. Therefore, you will find that we have judicial pronouncements which say that the magistrate has to have the last word. The magistrate is the man

on the spot and whatever he does has to be approached with the objective that he had, the objective of preventing disorders. Therefore, though the order is a judicial one, though it is held in certain cases to be subject to the revision of the High Court, still, it is gratifying to find that the High Courts or the Supreme Court deal very rarely with such cases, because ultimately, apart from all other things, law and order has to be maintained.

Then, my hon. friend Shri Menon, the other day, was rather categorical about his own State. He stated, If I am correct, that there was no use of this Act.

Some Hon. Members: Shri V. P. Nayar:

Shri Datar: I am sorry: it is my dear friend Shri V. P. Nayar.

An Hon. Member: Dear?

Shri Datar: Yes. He is dear to me. We may differ categorically, drastically.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I did not make a categorical reference. I said, possibly.

Shri Datar: I am very glad, my hon. friend possibly thinks that correction is coming and he has taken it gracefully. You have got the Communist Government in Kerala. They have to carry on the administration. In a proper case, it is not merely their right, but their fundamental duty, a very important duty to see to it that peace is maintained and there is no threat of lawlessness. I would point out three cases where the Kerala Government had to pass an order under section 144. These are recent cases, not old cases, cases of this year.

In the first instance, let the hon. Members follow, the Executive First Class Magistrate of Quilon promulgated orders under section 144 of the Cr. P.C. to prohibit a Muslim festival known as Chandanakudam which was due to be observed on 10-2-58 at a particular place in Quilon district.

Shri Kaswara Iyer: That was after Shri V. P. Nayar's speech.

Shri Datar: I am explaining the position. These orders were passed on 10-2-58 for a period of two weeks. Then, the important part is that the Government rightly thought that this order ought to continue in force for a further period and it has been extended for a further period of two months. Its operation was extended by the same officer for a further period of two months with effect from 25-2-58. This is instance No. 1.

The second instance is in another district. The Executive First Class Magistrate of Trichur issued orders under section 144 for a period of ten days from 28-2-58 to prohibit the Hindus from taking a procession of music in front of a mosque in opposition to the wishes of the local Muslims. The Hindus thereupon abdicated this observance.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: You better not quote the Kerala Government. Even if they have used it, you ban it.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Because I have been quoted, I owe a personal explanation.

Shri Datar: He may give his explanation, after I have concluded.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Why should the hon. Minister be so obstinate?

Shri Datar: I am quoting one more instance from Kerala. After that has been done, let the hon. member correct himself.

16:00 hrs.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: On a point of order, Sir. What I am seeing in this House is that when the hon. Minister is speaking, he does not think anybody here to be the Speaker. That is the difficulty.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: He is promulgating section 144 here.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: You are there to conduct the proceedings of the House, but he himself says "Order,

order", "sit down", all these things. It is not proper.

Shri Datar: When I am standing I am in possession of the floor with your permission.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I agree with the objection of the hon. Member that the Minister has said and made signs also that other hon. Members should not interfere, but then they have not obeyed his directions. They have continued. Therefore, they do not recognise that authority at least. So, there is no harm done. I am sure and I think when I ask those hon. Members, they will certainly abide by that. Now I will request them that when he is not giving way, they should wait. After he has finished.....

Shri V. P. Nayar: On a point of personal explanation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When he has finished, that can be done. Afterwards; not now.

Shri Datar: I shall give one more instance. In that case an order was passed under section 24 of the Travancore-Cochin Police Act. It was passed on 26th March, 1958 for a period of 15 days under which certain processions and assemblies were prohibited.

Thus, you will find that there are three instances in the State of Kerala very recent instances, where such orders had to be passed, and I am glad that they had passed such orders.

An Hon. Member: You are glad?

Shri Datar: I will read to you one more point. The news with respect to one of these areas appeared in *The Tribune* of 28th March, 1958. It reads like this:

"Quilon: An order under section 24 of the Travancore-Cochin Police Act was issued today prohibiting the assembly of more than four persons and the carrying of offensive weapons in five taluqs of the district."

And then, what the Magistrate says is very important.

"Mr. Varkey, the District Collector, in a notification stated that the order had been necessitated by recent troubles in certain taluks."

And then I shall also invite your attention to something that has been stated by the Secretary of the Communist Party. That is also interesting.

Shri Subman Ghose (Burdwan): Are you taking precedents from Kerala?

Shri Pannose: Does he not know that the Secretary of the Congress Party there has stoutly opposed that?

Shri Datar: Whatever it is, Government have to govern. If the other party does something which is wrong, then the party in power, if they claim to be a civilised Government, have to use these powers, and therefore I am pointing out these three instances where the Government of Kerala had to use these powers. Let my friend now say anything that he wanted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Only in the from of a question?

Shri V. P. Nayar: I wanted a personal explanation because....

Mr. Deputy Speaker: He wanted an explanation or wants to give an explanation?

Shri V. P. Nayar: I want to give an explanation. I wanted an opportunity for giving a personal explanation.

Shri Datar: After it is finished, I shall take the other points.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The point is the hon. Minister stated that I made a categorical statement that resort was not made to section 144 in the State.

I pointed out in a particular context that on the one hand for the prevention of crime, section 144 was being resorted to times without number in all the other States, and I read out extracts from the publications of the Intelligence Bureau, especially about crimes like rioting for which section 144 is supposed to be a remedial measure. In the State of Kerala possibly no such instance has taken place. I am aware that after I spoke here, from a discussion that I had with the Inspector-General of Police, there, that on one occasion before my speech, to prevent a communal riot, it was there, but I say even now that so long as the Kerala Government follows a particular code, which is an all-India code, and when section 144 is there, one or two magistrates may have used it. It was not my contention that there was no use of it. I was contrasting the application of section 144 in places like Delhi, right under our nose, and also resort to firing in another State whose incidence of crime is reported in Government's own publications. I did not use....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is enough: I think.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I want the hon. Minister to tell me how many cases of section 144 have been there in the adjoining States of Madras, Mysore and also Andhra Pradesh, as against the two in Kerala because the third is under the Police Act.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right, let us hear him now. I hope he will not be interrupted.

Shri Datar: May I point out that a piece of news has appeared in *The Mail* of Madras dated 27th March, 1958 in which a reference has been made to the conditions of lawlessness in Kerala State. I would read what the Secretary of the Kerala Communist Party himself has stated.

Shri Pannose: On a point of order: Sir.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Even that he does not hear.

An. Hon. Member: He refuses to hear.

Shri Pannose: It has been ruled several times that no reference should be made about a State Government because that Government is not here to defend itself, and here some cutting from a newspaper is being read by a responsible Minister to show that there is lawlessness in one part of India. It is improper.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A point of order has been raised that a reference has been made to conditions of law and order in a particular State. What has been prohibited here is the reference to the conduct of a Minister or the action of some officer. If the conditions are being related here, there is no harm, and that is not prohibited. We have to discuss here the conditions in one State or the other.

Shri Datar: May I also give another reason, add another reason to what you have said? The hon. Members, one after the other, who spoke, . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister is tempted away to address those Benches.

Shri Datar: I am sorry, Sir. I am addressing you.

I may give one more reason why the hon. Member just now was in a mood discomfiture. We heard the speeches of the hon. Members opposite, and almost all of them were referring to conditions not in the Union Territories of India, but in the different States. And if, for example they, give such instances before us, then I am entitled to point out other instances of State Governments also, and I am pointing this out with appreciation that the State Government has to deal with lawlessness and for dealing with lawlessness or for preventing lawlessness, they have

to take action under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Only with this purpose I am reading this.

"The Secretary of the Kerala Communist Party appealed to the people to discourage acts of lawlessness and help to maintain law and order in the State. Addressing a press conference this evening he admitted that lawlessness was on the increase in certain places since the last few days, and cited certain instances."

I would point out that often times occasions do arise, and if, for example, there are any incitements to lawlessness, then naturally they have got to be checked. Otherwise, the Government cannot go on, whichever party may be in power. They have passed orders because there are certain elements, as in almost all the States, which try to inflame Lawlessness, and therefore such actions have to be taken. I am citing this only for the purpose of pointing out this even in Kerala, to which my hon. friend made a reference,—I did not make a reference, I do not make reference—there were three instances.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Not three instances.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order!

Shri V. P. Nayar: Only two.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That should not be the attitude that the Minister should not be allowed. I have allowed sufficient latitude, but let him now proceed.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Two cannot become three.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He says that there are three. He may be mistaken.

Shri V. P. Nayar: But he was reading out three.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not matter. Could that absolve the hon. Member?

Shri Datar: I may also point out that section 144 is not a peculiar feature of India. In almost all the Acts of the civilised Governments, we have such powers, and as I shall point out very shortly, they got more stringent powers than what we have.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am afraid the hon. Minister wants to take....

Shri Datar: Five minutes, Sir. I shall try to finish.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Already he has taken enough time.

Shri Datar: But I shall make a reference to this. I may point out that there are at least three or four Acts. Some of them have been in vogue for more than a century in the United Kingdom, such as The Public Order Act of 1936, The Public Meeting Act of 1908 and The Seditious Meeting Act of 1817 and the Metropolitan Police Act of 1913.

I may point out one instance. Where, for example, a meeting is going on, and the chairman of the meeting finds that certain members of the audience want to create disorder, want to prevent the lawful carrying on of the meeting, then, you will kindly understand that it is open to the chairman to complain to the constable on the spot, and the constable has immediately the right, on such complaint, then and there to arrest people. We have not got any such powers in India. But there are similar powers so far as the United States of America is concerned. There also, I would just like to read only one or two lines. There, it is stated that people have a right, but this right has to be exercised in consonance with the highest rights of the people. I would refer to just one sentence in their Constitution which says that whenever there are rights, they ought to be used peacefully and in such a way that the

rights of others are not affected. Therefore, people have no absolute right of holding meetings whenever they like, especially at public places, or wanting to continue the meetings in spite of an order to the contrary.

In these circumstances, you will see that the orders that we have are more lenient than the similar orders in other countries. Therefore, I would point out that the purpose of the hon. Member is merely to create a feeling that Government are trying to take advantage or to resort to undue use of section 144. In all these cases, whenever orders are passed—if there are certain parties—they are not passed because of those parties, but because Government have to carry on; they are passed with a view to meet a situation which is likely to be threatening.

Therefore, I would assure the hon. Members that so far as the passing of the order is concerned, it has no political colour at all except to the extent that if some members of certain parties try to create a situation which would lead to lawlessness, and which would lead to apprehended danger, then only on account of that a certain action has to be taken, and therefore, I would submit that the whole House should throw out this Bill.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I ask one question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, there is no time left.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am not asking any political question. It is a purely non-political question.

The hon. Minister has referred to Kerala again and again. But we wanted to know something about what happened in Kanpur. We quoted certain instances, where section 144 had been imposed, right from 1947. I would only request the Minister to see whether any inquiry is possible there. Is he going to

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

institute any inquiry? Would he care to know the facts?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Minister has no right to reply now. How can the hon. Member get an answer from the Minister?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It is only one answer. Kanpur has been quoted....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am not allowing him any opportunity now.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It is a political reply which has been given.

श्री बाबूसाहेब अग्रवाल: (बिल्हीर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे बड़ी प्रसन्नता है कि
मैंने भारतीय संघ प्रक्रियासंहिता की धारा
१४४ को कानून की पुस्तक में से लोप करने
के सम्बन्ध में जो विधेयक प्रस्तुत किया था
उसके पक्ष में सदन के बहुत से मित्रों ने अपने
विचार व्यक्त किये। मैं उनको धन्यवाद
देता हूँ। इसके साथ ही साथ हमारे एक
माननीय सदस्य ने श्रीर माननीय मंत्री
महोदय ने जो इस विधेयक का विरोध
करने का साहस किया कम से कम उस
साहस के लिए मैं उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।
माननीय मंत्री जी ने श्रीर एक माननीय
सदस्य ने जो तर्क प्रस्तुत किये हैं मैं उनको
मानने के लिये प्रस्तुत नहीं हूँ।

माननीय मंत्री ने स्वयं इस विधेयक का
विरोध करते समय कहा कि हमको प्रैक्टिकल
साइड को देखना चाहिए, इसकी व्यावहा-
रिकता को देखना चाहिए। मैं सरकार के
शब्दों में ही करता हूँ कि इन दस वर्षों में
इस धारा १४४ के प्रयोग के अन्तर्गत शान्ति-
प्रिय नागरिकों के जलूसों और मीटिंगों पर,
चलने फिरने पर जो आदेश दिये गये हैं उन
प्रतिबन्धों का देश भर में विरोध हुआ और
उनके फलस्वरूप हमारे देश के कुछ शान्ति-
प्रिय नागरिकों को अपनी जान से हाथ धोना

पड़ा। इस धारा का जिलाधीशों ने दुरुपयोग
किया है। मैं केवल इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ
कि इस धारा का जो कानूनी पहलू है उस पर
हमारे मंत्री जी ने शान्ति और व्यवस्था शब्द
का बहुत प्रयोग किया। उन्होंने लॉ एंड
ऑर्डर का बहुत प्रयोग किया है। जहाँ तक
लॉ एंड ऑर्डर का सम्बन्ध में समझता हूँ कि
इस सदन के किसी भी माननीय सदस्य का
और किसी भी पोलिटिकल पार्टी को उसे
मानने से इन्कार नहीं है। मगर मुझे दुःख यह
होता है कि माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने लॉ
एंड ऑर्डर को किस प्रकार से प्रस्तुत किया है।
मुझे याद आता है कि जब हम गुलाम थे
तब विदेशी शासक भी ठोक इसी प्रकार
से बोला करते थे। वह भी यही कहा करते
थे कि लॉ एंड ऑर्डर के नाम पर जरूर गोली
चलायी जाय। मुझे वह दिन याद आता है
कि जब जो हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी बैठे
हुए हैं और जो माननीय सदस्य बैठे हुए हैं
उन्होंने इसी धारा के अन्तर्गत लाटियां
छापी थीं। आज जो हमारे गृह मंत्री महोदय
हैं उनकी जो आज अवस्था है वह उस लाटी
चार्ज के फल स्वरूप है जो सन् ३० में साइमन
कमीशन का विरोध करने के कारण हुआ
था। यह इस बात का आज प्रतीक है कि किस
तरह से ब्रिटिश साम्राज्यशाही ने हमको
कुचला था।

अभी मंत्री महोदय न यह बतलाया
है कि इस प्रकार की धारा विदेशों में भी है।
वहाँ भी इस प्रकार के कानून हैं। लेकिन
मैं समझता हूँ कि विदेशों में जो इस प्रकार
के कानून प्रयोग किये जाते हैं। उनकी
एग्जीक्यूटिव आथारिटी इतना दुरुपयोग नहीं
करती जितना कि इस देश की एग्जीक्यूटिव
आथारिटी ने किया है। इस धारा का अन्तिम
खंड आप देखें जिसमें यह दिया हुआ कि
कोई भी डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेट या एस० डी०
ओ० दो महीने से ज्यादा इस धाईर को
एनफोर्स नहीं कर सकता। अब जरा इसका

कानूनी पहलू देखिये । यह खंड कितना वेग है और कितनी बातें उनके विवेक पर छोड़ी गयी हैं । इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि ३६५ दिन में ३५६ दिन जिलाधीश इस आर्डर को जाँच रख सकता है और जिस तरह चाहे परिस्थितियों का वर्णन कर सकता है । वह इस धारा का लोगों के चलने फिरने पर, मीटिंग करने पर, विचार व्यक्त करने पर प्रयोग कर सकता है और इसका प्रयोग हुआ है ।

मुझे दुःख है कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने केरल राज्य का उदाहरण कोट किया और कहा कि विरोधी पार्टी की सरकार भी इसका प्रयोग करती है । मैं आपसे कहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश में जहाँ कांग्रेस पार्टी की सरकार है वहाँ पर देखें कि इसका कितना दुरुपयोग हुआ है और कानपुर में तो सारे देश से ज्यादा भीषण रूप में इसका प्रयोग हुआ है । माननीय मंत्री जी ने बड़ी दक्षता के साथ इसको छिपाने की कोशिश की है ।

अभी उत्तर प्रदेश में उन्नाव में सोशलिस्ट पार्टी का एक सम्मेलन हुआ । वहाँ पर ध्वनि प्रसारक यंत्र का प्रयोग यह कह कर रोक दिया गया कि विद्यार्थियों के इम्तिहान हो रहे हैं दस बजे तक उसका उपयोग नहीं हो सकता । वहाँ पर ध्वनि विस्तारक यंत्र को मंडप के भीतर लगाया गया था । इस पर वहाँ के एस०डी०ओ० साहब ने आर्डर दिया तारीख १४ को, कि दस बजे तक ध्वनि विस्तारक यंत्र का प्रयोग नहीं हो सकता । उसके बाद उस आर्डर को वापस लिये बगैर यह आर्डर दिया गया कि साढ़े ११ बजे के पहले ध्वनि विस्तारक यंत्र का प्रयोग नहीं किया जा सकता । हमने कहा कि साढ़े दस बजे के बाद लाउड स्पीकर का प्रयोग कर दीजिये तो डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेट ने नहीं माना और अन्त में जब सभा हो रही थी और डेलीगेट लोग बैठे हुए थे, हम लोग बैठे थे वहाँ पर लाठी धारी पुलिस ने आकर बुरी तरह से ध्वनि विस्तारक यंत्र को छीना और सोशलिस्ट पार्टी के नेता को गिरफ्तार

किया गया और उसको जेल में बन्द किया गया । ध्वनि विस्तार यंत्रों का नाम लेकर किस बुरी तरह से इसका दुरुपयोग हो रहा है । मैं सदन का ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता । मैं केवल यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि आज जिलाधीश किस बुरी तरह से इसका दुरुपयोग करते हैं । मैं तो यह कहने को तैयार हूँ कि आज विदेशी भाषा बोल करके, अंग्रेजी में जिस प्रकार चित्र को उपस्थित किया जाता है, तो ऐसा मालूम पड़ता है कि आज डलहाउजी और क्लाइव के मानस पुत्र बैठे हुए हैं । आज इस धारा का प्रयोग शान्तिप्रिय नागरिकों के विरुद्ध किया जा रहा है । भारत सरकार के यहाँ जो मंत्रिगण बैठे हुए हैं वे डा० सालाजार से और जनरल डायर से कम नहीं हैं । आज वे उन्हीं के पद चिन्हों पर चल रहे हैं । ऐसा मालूम पड़ता है कि उनके मानस पुत्र यहाँ बैठे हैं । आज आप सत्ता के मद में और बहुमत के मद में कुछ कर लीजिये, लेकिन इस बात को न भूलें कि आज सत्ता के मद में और बहुमत के मद में एक राजनैतिक पार्टी को विशेष रूप से शासन में रखने के लिए और अल्प संख्यक राजनीतिक विरोधियों का दमन करने के लिए स्वतंत्र भारत में धारा १४४ का दुरुपयोग बहुत समय तक नहीं चल सकता ।

आप कहते हैं कि इस धारा का जो दुरुपयोग हो रहा है उसमें कानून की कोई खराबी नहीं है । लेकिन मैं कहता हूँ कि किस कानून की कसौटी उसका व्यवहार में आना होता है । मुझे तो एक कहावत याद आती है कि न रहे बांस और न रहेगी बांसुरी । अगर कानून की पुस्तक में धारा १४४ बनी रहेगी तो आप जिलाधीशों को उसका दुरुपयोग करने से नहीं रोक सकते हैं । अगर यह धारा रहेगी तो वे मनमाने ढंग से लोगों पर बन्धन लगाते रहेंगे । आज मैं ज्यादा न कह कर केवल इतना ही कहना चाहूँगा कि आज हम इस सदन में बैठे हुए हैं । मुझ जैसे लोगों ने भी जब कभी भी इस

[श्री जगदीश अवस्थी]

सदन के बाहर वफा १४४ के अन्तर्गत धारदार पास हुआ है उसका विरोध किया है। माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने कानून और व्यवस्था का नाम लिया। यदि सचमुच हमने इस धारा की अवहेलना की होती और हम शान्ति और व्यवस्था की तोड़ने के अपराधी होते तो जनता के मन में भी यह भाव पैदा हुआ होता। लेकिन जिसको आपने कानून के जरिये अपराधी कहा जनता ने उसको प्यार करके चुन कर इस सदन में भेजा है। यह इस बात का सबूत है कि जिसको आप कानून विरोधी समझते हैं, उसको जनता वैसा नहीं समझती जनता उसको वैसा स्वीकार नहीं करती और जनता की राय सबसे ऊपर है। सन् १९६२ में हमें फिर जनता के सामने जाना पड़ेगा तब इस बात का निर्णय होगा कि शान्ति और व्यवस्था को कौन भंग करने वाला है और कौन नहीं। अन्त में मैं इतना ही कहना चाहूंगा कि धारा १४४ के काले कानून का मार्शल ला की तरह दुरुपयोग हुआ है। लाला लाजपत राय पर जब लाठी प्रहार किया गया था तो उन्होंने कहा था कि इस धारा के अन्तर्गत जो हमारे ऊपर लाठी चलायी गई है वह प्रत्येक लाठी ब्रिटिश साम्राज्य में कील ठोक देगी। मैं कहूंगा कि आज आप सत्ता के मद में और बहुमत के मद में इन शब्दों को न भूल जायें। इस धारा का जिसने दुरुपयोग किया है वह अन्त में नेस्त नाबूद हो गया। यदि आप इतिहास से सबक नहीं सीखेंगे और धारा का इसी तरह दुरुपयोग होता रहेगा तो आपको भी अपराध्य होना पड़ेगा। इस धारा का मैं ने हमेशा विरोध किया है। इस घुबिलत इस राजसी धारा ने हमारे रक्त को चूसा है और इसने बहुत से निरअपराध व्यक्तियों को हमेशा के लिए बिदा कर दिया। मैं इसे कभी भी मानने को तैयार नहीं हूँ। और अगर माननीय मंत्री जी के हाथों में ताकत नहीं तो मेरे जैसे लोगों के हाथों में ताकत है। इस धारा का दुरुपयोग किया जा रहा

है। अगर यह कानून की पुस्तक में रहेगा तो इसका निश्चित रूप से दुरुपयोग होता रहेगा। मुझे संतोष होगा कम से कम आज। मैं जानता हूँ कि मेरे विधेयक का जो भविष्य होने जा रहा है। आपके हाथ चलेंगे माननीय सदस्यों के भी मत गणना के लिये भं; हाथ चलेंगे लेकिन इसके पहले कि आपके हाथ चलें, मेरे हाथ चलेंगे मेरा मन और मस्तिष्क और मेरी आत्मा कहती है कि इस धारा का सदन के बाहर और भीतर बराबर विरोध किया जाये। कम से कम धारा को कानून की पुस्तक से आपके सामने ही निकाल कर के फाड़ करके फेंकना चाहता हूँ

[At this stage, the hon. Member (Shri Jagdish Avasthi) tore one page from a book.]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order...

श्री जगदीश अवस्थी :और फाड़ कर कुचलना चाहता हूँ रौंदना चाहता हूँ और भविष्य में...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. I will have to take severer action if he does not listen to me. It is only speeches that are to be made, not demonstrations. These demonstrations cannot be held inside the House. There ought to be some dignity inside the House. At least, we have to maintain that. I could not quite appreciate what the hon. Member meant when he said that he would disobey this section even inside the House. This is not becoming of an hon. Member to make such demonstrations inside the House. He is complaining against Government that they resort to bullets and other things. He has not done anything less so far as words were concerned.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): If any justification was needed, it has been provided.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now he has to conclude.

Shri Datar: Is it in order for an hon. Member to say that he would disobey a certain order?

Some Hon. Members: Why not?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Whatever he might do outside the House, he has no right to say that he will do it inside the House. That cannot be permitted.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I submit that he has only to obey your orders, not the orders of the Minister or Government?

Shri Datar: I have not stated so.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am not talking of any direction or orders of the Minister. I am only saying that it is not justified on the part of any hon. Member to say here that he would disobey the law here inside the House.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): That was not his intention. He will obey your decision.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How could I judge the intention? By the words that are conveyed to me and not by anything else. How am I to judge? Perhaps the hon. Member lost control of himself.

श्री जगदीश प्रसादी : श्रीमान जी, जो कुछ मैंने सदन के समक्ष किया, वह केवल इस लिए नहीं कि सदन की मर्यादा को भंग करने का सवाल था, बल्कि इस लिए कि आज यह कानून सचमुच में हमारे देश की स्वतंत्रता और हमारे देश के प्रजातंत्र के लिए कलंक है और जब अनेक भांख और कान होने के बावजूद भी यह सरकार जनता के रीएक्शन को नहीं देखती है, तब इस सरकार की भांख और कान को खोलने के लिए यह आवश्यक था कि मैं गुस्से का इश्वार करता कि एक ऐसा गन्दा और काला कानून स्टैबूट बुक में रखा हुआ है। मुझे सन्तोष है कि मैं ने कम से कम एक कानूनी पुस्तक में से इस बाप को हमेशा के लिए नष्ट कर दिया

अन्त में मैं इतना कहना चाहूंगा कि इससे पहले कि हमारे माननीय सदस्यगण मतदान पर विचार करें और उनके हाथ उठें, मैं उन से इस देश के जनतंत्र के नाम पर, अपने संविधान के नाम पर और इस देश के महात्मा गांधी के उन शब्दों के नाम प्रपील करना चाहता हूँ कि चाहे कोई सरकार हो स्वदेशी हो या विदेशी हो अगर कोई अन्यायपूर्ण कानून होता है, तो सदा सर्वदा उसका विरोध करना चाहिए। मैं समझता हूँ कि यहां पर बहुत से विधेयक आया करते हैं और हम लोग विरोधी पक्ष में होने के बावजूद भी, अगर कोई सही बात होती है, तो पार्टी का अनुशासन छोड़ कर उस का समर्थन किया करते हैं। आज मंत्री जी ने जो कुछ कहा है उस, को दृष्टि में रख कर हमारे विरोधी पक्ष में जो लोग बैठे हैं कांग्रेस पार्टी के लोग मैं चाहूंगा कि वे पार्टी से ऊपर उठ कर के, जनता और जनतंत्र में आस्था दिखा कर के, जो विधेयक मैं ने प्रस्तुत किया है, उस का समर्थन करें और देश में इतिहास कायम करें कि यह लोक-सभा सचमुच में हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों की प्रतिनिधि है और उस वे जनता की भावनाओं का आदर किया है।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आप सब माननीय सदस्यों से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि इस विधेयक का समर्थन वे जोरदार शब्दों में करें।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर माननीय सदस्य ने अपील पर ही आना था, तो इतने जोश की क्या जरूरत थी।

श्री जगदीश प्रसादी : वह तो आवश्यक था।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, be taken into consideration."

The Lok Sabha divided

Shri Yajnik (Ahmedabad): May I say that I have failed to register my vote on account of some defect in the mechanism?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will add one.

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta-East): He has not said on which side he

wanted to vote.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The result of the Division is:

Ayes: 34 plus 1 (if his intention is so) that is 35, and Noes—88. The Noes have it.

Ayes 35; Noes 88.

Division No. 6]

AYES

[16.33 hrs

Awasthi, Shri Jagdish
Banerjee, Shri S. M.
Barna, Shri Hem
Bharucha, Shri Naushir
Braj Raj Singh, Shri
Chakraverty, Shrimati Manu
Chavan, Shri D. R.
Dasgupta, Shri B.
Dwivedy, Shri Surendranath
Elias, Shri Mohammed
Golkwad, Shri B. K.
Ghodasdar, Shri Fatahsinh

Ghosal, Shri
Ghose, Shri Subiman
Gupta, Shri Sadhan
Jyer, Shri Baswara
Jadhav, Shri
Kar, Shri Prabhat
Katti, Shri D. A.
Kodiyar, Shri
Mahagonkar, Shri
Matin, Qazi
Menon, Shri Narayanankutty
Mukerjee, Shri H. N.

Mullick, Shri B. C.
Nayar, Shri V. P.
Pandey, Shri Saraju
Panigrahi, Shri
Patel, Shri P. R.
Patil, Shri Nana
Punnoose, Shri
Ramam, Shri
Reddy, Shri Viswanatha
Tangamani, Shri
Yajnik, Shri

NOES

Abdul Lateef, Shri
Achint Ram, Shri
Anirudh Sinha, Shri
Anjanappa, Shri
Arumugham, Shri S. R.
Ayyakannu, Shri
Bajaj, Shri Kamalnayan
Bakliwal, Shri
Banerji, Dr. R.
Banerji, Shri P. B.
Barupal, Shri P. L.
Basappa, Shri
Bisbal Singh, Shri
Chandak, Shri
Das, Shri Ramdhani
Das, Shri Shree Narayan
Dasappa, Shri
Datar, Shri
Gandhi, Shri Perce
Gandhi, Shri M. M.
Hajernavie, Shri
Hem Raj, Shri
Jain, Shri M. C.
Jhulan Sinha, Shri
Jinnahchand, Shri
Jogendra Sen, Shri
Joshi, Shri A. C.
Kaliwal, Shri
Kastur, Dr.
Khadiwala, Shri

Khimji, Shri
Kottukapally, Shri
Krishna, Shri M. R.
Kureel, Shri B. N.
Lachman Singh, Shri
Laskar, Shri N. C.
Madhusudan Rao
Malhi, Shri R. C.
Masuriya Din, Shri
Mehta, Shrimati Krishna
Mishra, Shri Bibhuti
Murmu, Shri Palika
Murthy, Shri B. S.
Naldurgker, Shri
Naskar, Shri P. S.
Nathwani, Shri
Nayak, Shri Mohan
Nehru, Shrimati Uma
Raghubir Sahai, Shri
Rajiah, Shri
Ram Saran, Shri
Ram Shanker Lal
Ramakrishnam, Shri P. R.
Rameshwar Rao, Shri
Rampure, Shri
Rane, Shri
Rao, Shri Jaganatha
Raut, Shri R. B.
Reddy, Shri Viswanatha
Roy, Shri Biren

meshwar
Naigal, Sardar A. S.
Sanganna, Shri
Sarnadi, Shri Ajit Singh
Satyabhama Devi, Shrimati
Selku, Shri
Sharma, Pandit K. C.
Sharma, Shri D. C.
Sharma, Shri R. C.
Shivnanappa, Shri
Siddanappa, Shri
Singh, Shri D. N.
Sinha, Shri Gajendra Prasad
Sinha, Shri K. P.
Sinha, Shri Satya Narayan
Siva, Dr. Gangadhara
Snatak, Shri Nardeo
Somani, Shri
Sonawant, Shri
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Surya Prasad, Shri
Tahir, Shri Mohammed
Tariq, Shri A. M.
Thimmaiah, Shri
Thirumala Rao, Shri
Ujke, Shri
Vedakumari, Kumari M.
Wadiwa, Shri

The motion was negatived

DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES (AM- ENDMENT) BILL

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will now take up the next item. Shri V. P. Nayar.

There ought to be no hon. Member standing in the passages; either they should sit down or walk out.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, after the glimpses of a little drama which we saw, I think it is fit and proper that we discuss something about the drama itself.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A bigger one.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Yes; a bigger one. I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Dramatic Performance Act, 1876, be taken into consideration."

I do not for a moment believe that by amendments alone we can rid in this country, of the evil which has resulted from the Dramatic Performances Act in its existence for the last 80 years.

You know that in the year 1953, when Shri C. C. Biswas, the then Law Minister, brought forward a measure for the repealing and amending of certain acts. I wanted to introduce an amendment by which I also wanted the Dramatic Performances Act to be deleted from the statute-book. Then, the Speaker ruled that the private Member had no right to introduce amendments for the deletion of a particular enactment which was not included in the list which was proposed by Government. Therefore, Sir, I had no other go. Thereupon I sent in, a number of times, Resolutions to this House recommending to the Government that the Act should be repealed. I had not the good fortune to have the resolution ballotted in my favour. Thereafter, I thought it was possible only by bringing in a Bill of the kind which I did now.

It is not necessary for me at all to emphasise how important the drama is not merely in the advancement of culture but also for other matters. Everyone knows how important a drama is and everyone also knows how restrictive the particular enactment which I refer to, the Dramatic Performances Act of 1876, has been during its history of the last 80 years.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member who is speaking must be assured of a calm and peaceful environment.

Shri V. P. Nayar: When I speak of the drama and the Dramatic Performances Act, I want the Members opposite to realise that this should not be treated as a matter of political prestige.

The other day, when I sought by an amendment to introduce this as a measure for repeal, I remember very distinctly that Shri Charu Chandra Biswas said that it was necessary that the Act should be continued with as much vehemence as my friend Shri Datar said today that section 144 is necessary. I shall try to show to the House why it is not at all necessary in the present context; not merely that, it is absolutely unnecessary and the black Act, the Dramatic Performances Act should be repealed forthwith.

Recently, we have had other inventions. There is the cinema; there is also the television. But, these have not been successful in ousting the drama and we have no reason to believe that in the near future or in the future at all, the drama can be done away with. It is very important for us to note that even the President of India, the other day, when he sent a message to the Eighth Annual Conference of the Indian Peoples Theatre Association, held in Delhi during last

[Shri V. P. Nayar]

winter, observed that the theatre occupies an important place in the social and cultural awakening of a people.

Sir, in India, we have great traditions of the drama. We have produced some of the world's best dramatists. And, in this book on *Indian Drama*, published by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, to which I shall have to refer later also, this is what is said about the Indian drama.

"A series of works of outstanding merit and beauty produced by her most talented dramatists, in ancient India, and also during modern times, under European influence, furnishes a unique record for at least 2,000 years from the predecessors of Bhasa and Sudraka down to Girishchandra Ghosh and Rabindranath Tagore."

We live in the traditions of these great dramatists and we are not giving an opportunity to those who live in those traditions to develop in the manner in which they would like, because you know that under the obnoxious provisions of the Dramatic Performances Act nobody can stage a drama unless he satisfies the police as regards the import of the drama. Here is an enactment by which the Government allows the police to masquerade as professors of culture in country, which as is said, has such great traditions of Kalidasa. How then can we expect that the dramatist or the dramatic troupe to produce a drama which, according to their mind, has to be produced in order to correct a social evil? It is under such circumstances that we have to take our memory back to 1876 when this Act was promulgated.

As we all know, the drama certainly provides a medium of expression and for that a very powerful expression of the human thought. I do not want to go into those details, but, I would say

that in the recent history of India, after the war of independence, the movement of the drama had a greater impetus. And, the moment the British rulers realised that here was something which was able to fire the imagination of the people who were already trying to rise in revolt, it had to be curbed if the British wanted to remain in power. I went through the speech of Mr. Hobhouse who was then the Law Member, when he introduced the Bill after it was reported by the Select Committee. I am sure if the hon. Minister has not read his speech, he may repeat most of the words which Mr. Hobhouse had used in those days in 1876. As we know, the British Government tried to control the drama because certain plays which were produced by the Great National Theatre of Calcutta were not liked by the then rulers. I do not want to refer to all the details. But there were plays which were very popular. When the Great National Theatre produced them, it really gave the people of Calcutta an occasion to think about the way in which they were being ruled.

I remember having read somewhere how this particular enactment, Dramatic Performances Act, had to be brought because Lord Northbrooke passed an Ordinance by which the magistracy was given power to prevent the drama from being staged. It also happened that by the same time some of the great Bengali dramatists produced popular plays, one of them being *Nal Darpan* which was an indictment of the British. It provided the picture of the exploitation by the British especially of the indigo cultivators of our country. That success was not confined to Calcutta. The same troupe took the play and had several performances in most of the North Indian cities. After that came another play and the Government had to think how best this could be prevented in order that they may maintain themselves in power.

I find that one of the plays, *Sati ki kelaangini* was the play which was responsible for the promulgation of this Act. I did not after all depict anything which was objectionable. After the promulgation of the Act, the actors were arrested when they were giving the performance. When the case was in trial, one of the British witness gave evidence in the court which is very well worth reading. This is what he is reported to have said: 'This was Owen who then functioned as an interpreter to the Calcutta Presidency Magistrate's Court. In his evidence he said:

"I have seen more obscene plays than this. The aim of the play is to inflame natural hatred against a tyrannical Magistrate. Mr. Allen who defended the accused said that the play was not obscene when compared with those being staged in English theatres in Calcutta or in Covent Garden and Drury Lane. He felt that if *Don Juan* could be staged in an English theatre in Calcutta, there was no point in examining these other plays too meticulously."

At a time when English people could be allowed to stage anything that was vulgar or profane or obscene with immunity in Calcutta, the Indians were not permitted to stage plays which depicted the semi-social evils which were rampant during the rule of the British. Therefore, the Act came into force and even the *Nil Darpan* about which I made a reference was also banned in Lucknow. We know that several plays written by some of our immortal dramatists had been banned. It was not confined to Bengal. There were plays and songs banned in Madras. The songs of Poet Bharathiyar were banned. In Punjab I understand that even today, the Dramatic Performances Act is in force to such an extent

that in most of the districts people are not permitted to put any such show. It has happened in Kerala. It has happened in U. P. and all the other States during all these years. Especially when there was a wave of political agitation, Government then, as the Government now, used the restrictive provision of the Act. You had to submit the script. If you go through so many details which have been given in the Press from time to time, you will be surprised to find that not merely modern dramatists have been made to come and offer their scripts but even the plays of authors who have created everlasting place in the world of drama had to be submitted. even their books have been subjected to scrutiny by the police bosses. In this context, Sir, I want the Government to consider whether it is not time that we replaced the hated enactment.

I find that the Sangeet Natak Akademi, which is specially created for the purpose of advancing the cause of drama, has also made a recommendation. Recently it has recommended to the Government that the Act should be completely repealed. I find that this recommendation was considered in detail by the Sangeet Natak Akademi in its Executive Board first and later on endorsed by its general body.

So, Sir, it is not merely my desire in bringing forward this amending legislation to take away one or two provisions, but it is equally my desire that Government should immediately think of repealing this Act.

Sir, I was submitting to you that there were plays which were banned, without any rhyme or reason, using the provisions of this Act, and that is an argument which I want to use in favour of my amendments. I remember that just before the Act came into force, just before Mr. Hobhouse introduced his Bill in the House, the Bengali play had created such a popular interest that when the Government came out with this Act the

[Shri V. P. Nayar]

Amrita Bazar Patrika had to write in the following terms:

"If the Government imposed one rule after another on our daily activities, then perhaps we will not have long to obey the English King and live under the rigidities of the law."

When in 1950 by the Adaptation of Laws Order the Government of India extended the operation of this particular enactment to States in which the Act did not apply till then, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* seems to have lost its courage to come out with an open criticism like that.

Even as early as 1876 when the Government brought forward this legislation, the play for which the Government had to come out with this legislation was commented upon by the then mouthpiece of the British Government—the paper called *Englishmen and Military Chronicle*. Instead of telling the people that here was something which people should go and see in order to correct themselves, the mouthpiece of the British Government then said that it is not a play worth seeing and that all well-wishers of society should oppose it. I am only trying to show that from the moment the British people in India found it difficult to restrain the dramatists from expressing what they felt about the tyranny of the British rule, the British people found out a remedy through the Dramatic Performances Act.

Now, let us see what is happening today. Today if you want to have any piece put on board it may not be quite necessary that you should first go and take the permission, but technically it is necessary and on very many occasions when such permission was not taken those who have acted in the play and those who had produced the play have been hauled up on charges of having violated the provisions of the Dramatic Performances Act. I can understand that if

the Government are bent upon preventing what is obscene from being displayed before the public, then it can very well resort to a separate provision and it need not at all be the Dramatic Performances Act.

What do we find with regard to the cinema? It is something which gives the same influence, although it is different from drama because in drama it is only the form in which the actors or the characters come before the audience in all their flesh and blood. But what do we find in the cinema? There are gangster stories; there are cinema thrillers.

An Hon. Member: Bathing beauties.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Yes; he says there are bathing beauties. All that is obscene, vulgar and profane are allowed. You have a Board of Censors here. It was only the other day that my hon. friend Shri Tangamani put a question to the Minister of Information and Broadcasting about a picture which had provoked great public resentment—*Bhawani Junction*. When such pictures are allowed to be shown to millions of our people, the Government says that any drama which can at best be shown only to a thousand people at the most must necessarily get an all-clear from a policeman who is adjudged by the Government as the most competent authority to judge the cultural merit of a particular performance. I shall come to that later, because I have a concrete instance of how these men whom I refer to as those who masquerade as professors of culture have applied their common sense in the matter of finding out how a drama will be like.

I am submitting this because I have been pained at the way in which this Act has been relentlessly used in order to prevent progressive writers from giving expression to what they feel. I remember also the case of one of the dramas with the title *You made me a Communist* which was a most

popular drama for any drama in our language so far. I can submit to the House that over 300 times every year this drama was shown to the people, and not a single vacant seat was there in any of the theatres. Yet, when my hon. friends over there, when they were in power—I mean the Congress Government in the Kerala State—even when they knew that the Government was tottering, gave an order prohibiting this show. This has happened in Andhra also where I am told that the immortal play *Maha Bhoomi* was first shown. Some of the Congress Ministers of Madras, at the time when it was not divided, were present there. That picture depicted the struggle of the peasants at Telangana, and I was told by comrade Shri Nagi Reddy that Shri Gopala Reddy was himself one of those who saw the play. When it was being staged before millions of people, the Government struck, and prevented it from being shown under an order.

There are many other plays. If I go to Calcutta my hon. friends from Calcutta will know and tell me on how many occasions this Act has been used. So, when all of us agree that drama can have no substitute for the advancement of our culture, when our Government says that it is wedded to a policy by which they want to promote the drama to the maximum, when they have set up a Sangita Natak Academy for the advancement of drama in this country, when that Academy recommends to Government that this is an obnoxious piece of legislation and that it should be repealed, there can be no argument for my hon. friend that the Government cannot do it now.

I want also to submit that when we go through the history of this enactment, it is necessary for us to find out what the types of plays are which they have so far banned, resorting to the provisions of this Act.

I find that apart from *Nili Darpan*, many other famous plays were banned. Here are instances: Ramnarayan's *Navanatak*, Umesh Chandra Mitter's *Vidhava Bibaha*—that was

only a drama on widow remarriage—Madhusudan Dutt's *Buro Saliker Gharey Rhaw*, and Dinbandhu Mitra's *Biay Pagla Buro*. These are all dramas which have been sometime ago staged.

Quite recently, I find that the immortal dramatist Girish Chandra's *Siraj-ud-Daula*, *Mir Kassim* and *Chhatrapati Shivaji* and Kshirod Prasad's *Nandakumar* were banned. All these are depicting characters whom we know and they have been banned in Bengal. It does not stop there. They also banned the play *August* 1942. Even the national struggles are found too dangerous to be depicted on the Bengali stage, and the police officers have prevented Hemendra Gupta's *August '42* dealing with the national upsurge, and Digin Banerji's *Taranga* was banned by the Congress Government. Apart from these, innumerable folk songs all over the country have been banned. Innumerable dramas which the Indian People's Theatre Association, wanted to stage, have been in recent years, all after my hon. friends have come to power in our country, using not any new Act, but an Act which ought to have been as dead as mutton by this time.

I would very earnestly request the hon. Minister to consider how the power under this particular enactment has been so far exercised and how it will be necessary to accept my amendments, in order to prevent the mischief that has already been done. By continuing this legislation, the Government have continued to impose the shackles on the Indian drama. They have really fettered the hands of the dramatists. We want that the dramatists should have the full freedom to write and produce what they think is the best.

I shall show you one example of one of the police officers asking for certain scripts. I am again quoting from a magazine, *Unity for People's*

[Shri V. P. Nayar]

Culture. I may be permitted to read a quotation:

"That the professors of culture of Lal Bazaar are entirely ignorant of anything remotely connected with drama was demonstrated last month when by a police order asking the I.P.T.A. to submit scripts of the following dramas by February 18, failing which legal action would be taken. These are some of the names in the police list:

Silk Saree, Kanchrapara, the Goat and Tulsi Lahiri."

It was difficult for the I.P.T.A. to submit scripts since *Kanchrapara* is only a play—the police took it to be a drama. *Tulsi Lahiri* is the name of a well-known author and actor. *Goat* is the animal which gives us milk or which we eat as flesh. The police of Lal Bazaar want the script of the goat to be submitted to them, knowing very well what a goat really is.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Can these be names of dramas?

Shri V. P. Nayar: No.

17-00 hrs.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There was no drama by the name of goat, but if somebody gives that name?

Shri V. P. Nayar: I do not think any dramatist of this country will give the name of the goat for a drama, unless he wants to produce that drama for the advantage of the quadrupeds.

Tulsi Lahiri is the name of a very well-known actor. But worse was the insult which they gave to the great Rabindranath Tagore. There was a novel by him called *Gora* and the Lal Bazaar police want the I.P.T.A. to submit the script of *Gora* which is Tagore's play. Every school boy in Calcutta and West Bengal knew that *Gora* is a novel and it was available not through the I.P.T.A. but through the Shanti Niketan. It is there in every bookshop. This is the type of power which they have invested the police with. Therefore, this must stop.

If we want our country to produce great dramatists to keep up the traditions of the great Kalidasa, Bhasa or Tagore, I think Government should waste no time in breaking these shackles which they have imposed and which they have continued for the last 80 years.

I do not want to take more time, because I want other hon. Members also to speak on this. I shall conclude my speech with one reference about a case which has been reported from Allahabad on which the Allahabad High Court has made certain observations. All of us have heard about such cases, but this particular case is peculiar, although there have been cases like that in the State from which I come. There has been at least one instance in which the then Travancore-Cochin High Court ruled that certain provisions of the Dramatic Performances Act were *ultra vires* of the Constitution.

Here, in this UP case four or five workers of the IPTA were challaned for producing a drama without permission, as was contemplated under section 10. They were: Mrs. Razia Syed Zaheer, Bhupal Varma, Gokulchand Rastomji and Amritlal Nagar. These were the four persons challaned under section 10(4) and the Magistrate before whom they had to appear was himself not satisfied and he made a reference to the High Court. In making that reference to the High Court, the magistrate wrote—

"It is debatable whether the Dramatic Performances Act of 1878 is inconsistent with Part III of the Constitution and can be considered that the Act is invalid. The question of validity of the Act is necessary to be determined for the disposal of the case, as no authoritative pronouncement has been made, either by the High Court of Judicature or by the Supreme Court."

It will be interesting to read out what the High Court, in their considered

opinion, has given before us and you will be surprised to know what was the play over which this prohibitory order was given. When Lucknow wanted to celebrate Id festival, the IPTA wanted to put on boards the play about Id. And that was written by no less a person than the great Munshi Premchand. Who is the police officer in this country who can question the right to encourage Munshi Premchand's play and get it acted before the people? I want to know it. Is the Home Minister competent? Is there anybody who is competent to question or say that Munshi Premchand's dramas should not be acted in public? There is a limit for all this nonsense which the police have been doing and, very rightly, as the High Court of Allahabad has observed, this was something unimaginable. The High Court, while delivering the Judgment—I am reading from AIR 1956...

An Hon. Member: Allahabad.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Allahabad, and the case is 571....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Collective effort even in making a speech?

Shri V. P. Nayar: This is Criminal Reference No. 10 of 1954 made by the Additional City Magistrate, Lucknow. It is stated here:

"Merely because a person preaches or advocates by staging a play a political ideology..."

My hon. Minister, when he was referring to the discussion about section 144...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why should he appropriate to himself "my hon. Minister"?

Shri V. P. Nayar: That is only because he was generous enough to say that I was his very good friend.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He could very well say "my good friend".

Shri V. P. Nayar: Yes, my good friend, the hon. Minister.

Shri Datar: Then it will be reciprocal.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I do it with grace. I am submitting this because I heard the hon. Member saying that section 144 was not intended or was not likely to be misused in cases where political disputes were concerned. I am reading from the judgment of the Allahabad High Court:—

"Merely because a person preaches or advocates by staging a play a political ideology different from the ideology of the party in power, the prohibitory order under section 3 is unjustified. The play cannot be characterised as the advocacy of the ideas which are likely to deprave and corrupt the people and so offend as clause (b) of section 3 has become a nullity as soon as the Constitution of India came into force. The prosecution of the accused for disobedience of the order under section 4 was absolutely misconceived."

He does not say that the order was merely wrong.

Judge of the High Court when he uses such a word uses it with most abundant caution and he says that this was misconceived. We know how these plays are being banned. It is a very interesting and a very learned judgment in which the judge himself says—I cannot say whether all the High Court judges of our country will appreciate the worth of Munshi Premchand or even Kalidas, but this particular judge at least says when he discusses the facts of the case:

"The late Munshi Prem Chand was one of the most outstanding writers of novels, short stories and plays."

One of the shortest plays is *Idgah*. That was the play which was banned and the accused were the organisers of the Lucknow Branch of the I.P.T.A. who arranged to stage *Idgah* on the

[Shri V. P. Nayar]

Id day, i.e., on the 16th June, 1953. The Secretary of the Association, by a letter, had already requested the Police for permission which was not given and they were hauled up of having violated Section 10 and Section 3.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has taken more than half an hour.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I shall finish in two minutes. I also assure you that at the time of replying I will not take these two minutes. If you give me fifteen minutes, I will finish in twelve minutes.

I only want to say that the amendments which I propose are on the face of it understandable even to the hon. Minister.

Shri Datar: Yes.

Shri V. P. Nayar: As the provision stands today, the Police can prevent a play which is scandalous or of a defamatory nature—why should we take any step to prevent dramatic performances, I do not know—or which is likely to excite feelings of disaffection to the Government established by law in this country. Everyone knows that this is completely redundant in the present context. The hon. Minister knows that the Act will violate the provisions of the Constitution where we have guaranteed certain rights of expression. That is the major point and therefore I want to provide for an appeal when cases of the kind which I have referred have been brought and in which the party has been aggrieved.

Before closing and before resuming my seat, I wish to tell the House that if I move for an amendment, as I do now, it is because I think that something is better than nothing. My desire is not to have this amendment passed, but to see that the hon. Minister comes forward with a proposal—I hope he will take immediate steps—to repeal this Act.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Dramatic Performance Act, 1876, be taken into consideration."

I now call Shri D. C. Sharma. I must, with the permission of the House, ask hon. Members to be brief in their observations that they have to make because there must be, as I see, about half a dozen hon. Members who would like to participate. Certainly hon. Members should have their say and make the observations that they want to. Therefore I request them to be brief and concise.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I must admit at the very outset that the observations of Shri V. P. Nayar regarding drama have been very near my heart. All my life I have been a student of drama. I have been fond of witnessing dramatic performances. I have been in the habit of going to those theatres where plays have been performed. I share with him his desire for seeing to it that drama has a proper place in the national life of our country and in free India. But, I fail to understand how this Dramatic Performance Act, which has been on the statute-book all these years, has been responsible for stifling—I am using the word which Shri V. P. Nayar has used—stifling the dramatic movement in this country. I would say that even though the British might have used and abused, I would say this Act to the detriment of dramatists and dramatic performances during the days of the British rule, there were so many theatrical companies, there were so many dramatic performances going on in our country. But, it is not this Dramatic Performance Act which has killed the drama.

Drama has been killed by the mechanised amusements that we have these days, by the radio, by television—of course, we do not have television in this country—by the cinema. The cinema has rung the death-knell of

drama much more than any other instrument of popular amusement.

What is happening in other countries? In other countries, the State is subsidising drama. Also, in other countries, people love the theatre. They are getting together, and forming voluntary associations for keeping the flame of dramatic performances and dramatic entertainment alive. I can tell him, no Act of the Government, whether the British Government or the Congress Government or the Communist Government or any other kind of Government, no Act of any Government whatever its description, can kill the drama or kill the creative genius of any country. Dramatists there have been and dramatists there shall ever be in India. Of course, he was quoting some book on Indian Theatre. It is a good book. But, it is not any Act which can kill the flowering of the dramatic genius of this country. It cannot kill it.

What is happening is this. People have got used to methods of mass entertainment and they have lost, so far as taste is concerned, those values which they should have. It is that which is responsible: not this Act. Therefore, I should think that the hon. Member who moved this Bill should have come forward with some constructive suggestions to see to it that dramatic performances are performed in our country on a bigger scale than before or on as good a scale as they were performed at one time that I know. Instead of that, he has brought forward this Bill.

He has made a very wonderful plea for culture. I endorse his views about culture. But, I would ask him one thing. Can culture be equated with defamation; because he wants that word defamation should be taken out? I want to ask him one thing. Can culture be equated with treason to the Government, whatever the Government may be? I am not talking about the complexion of the Government. Today it is the Congress Government, tomorrow it may be the

Communist Government, day after tomorrow Praja-Socialist Government.

An Hon. Member: No, it cannot be.

Shri D. C. Sharma: After three or four days it may be some other Government. I am not talking about the complexion of the Government.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Just as in Pakistan and France?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I am talking about the Bill. I want to ask one thing. Is culture to be a synonym for defamation? Is culture to be another word for treason to the Government, whatever that Government may be? Is culture to be taken out of the hands of magistrates and put into the hands of Sub-Inspectors of Police?

He says any person not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector can go to a house. Of course, I do not hold any brief for any policeman. I do not hold any brief for any magistrate. I do not hold any brief for any Judge. I say they are all apt to err. They might have erred. He has quoted some instances. I think if I were to go to the library, or some other friend were to go to the library, he will be able to quote more instances. All of us are apt to go astray, but I say the magistrate or the High Court Judge or some other person is more knowledgeable, apart from other things, than a Sub-Inspector of Police.

In clause 4 of the Bill which he wants as a substitute for section 8, he says that any person not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector can go to a house and in such a house, room or place take into custody all persons directly connected with such performance. Of course, he has provided for an appeal. Well, it is very good. First of all you steal the horse and then you say....

Shri V. P. Nayar: He does not steal. The Chair never does it.

Shri D. C. Sharma: By "you" I do not mean anybody here. Somebody

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

steals the horse, and then we say: "You can steal the horse because we have provided for an appeal. Afterwards if the judgement goes wrong, there will be an appeal." I say the intentions of my hon. friend Shri V. P. Nayar are very admirable, are such as would appeal to any student of drama or literature or culture, but the remedy which he is proposing for this is something which I as a humble student of literature and a humble play-goer cannot understand.

Shri Tangamani: May I know what remedy he has envisaged?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That can only be known after we have heard him.

Shri D. C. Sharma: He says in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that *jatras* and performances of a like nature at religious festivals have also been brought within the ambit of the enactment.

My hon. friend has been talking about Bengal. Bengal is very dear to my heart. I spent two precious years of my life in Bengal, and I can assure you that Bengal has left a stamp on my mind, but not a stamp of the kind he described, but it has left a stamp on my mind which I can never forget. I sometimes feel that I have something of the Bengalee about me. When I was a student in Bengal, I tell you, I witnessed so many of these *jatra* performances, and I must say they were good entertainment, they were good lessons, they were good performances from any point of view for the masses. He wants that these *jatras* and religious performances at religious festivals also should be brought within the scope of this Bill. So, I thought he had come forward to ring the death-knell of that Act. I had thought he was trying to modify that Act so that it loses its teeth, but my hon. friend Shri Nayar has been saying all kinds of self-contradictory things. Instead of restricting the scope of that Act, he is widening the scope of that Act. He says, bring the *jatras* and performances and religious festivals also within the scope of the Bill.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I am prepared to accept an amendment.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Of course, he may now say he is prepared to accept amendments. He is like me, wise after the event. But I cannot help it. I would say that he has brought these things also into it.

Nobody will deny the preamble of his speech on this Bill, and nobody can take exception to it, that drama must have a place in our life. And we are going to have a national theatre. Some persons belonging to different parts of the country may say, 'Why do you want to have a national theatre? What is the good of that? Why are you spending your money on that?'. But I would say that we should have that.

My hon. friend was talking about the Punjab, and the days when there was the Governor's rule in PEPSU. There was a consultative committee appointed at that time. I was a member of that consultative committee, and if I remember aright, my very good friend, Shri Punnoose, was also a member of that consultative Committee. That consultative committee was presided over by Dr. Katju. There, they brought forward the Bill about dramatic performances. But that was not accepted, because I saw with my own eyes that when the 1952 elections were going on, some of the persons, and some of these parties were having dramatic performances of a kind, which, I would say, instead of being a means of spreading culture, were the means of spreading hatred and were the means of spreading some kind of poison. And if the Punjab Government made use of some Act to put that down, I would not blame them.

What free India wants is drama, clean drama, noble drama, drama of a high kind. But free India does not want drama which has poison of any kind, whether it is communal poison or political poison or ideological poison

or poison of any kind. Therefore, the problem before us is twofold. In the first place, the problem is that we should try to place drama on a very stable footing. In the second place, the drama that we have should be of a kind which would give people wholesome entertainment.

Of course, I know there are persons who do not want censorship of any kind. And I tell you, a day will come when we would not have censorship of any kind. If you want to know my personal opinion about it, I would say that I would not like to have censorship of any kind, so far as books are concerned, so far as dramas are concerned, and so far as anything is concerned. I would like that there should be unfettered expression of thought. I would not like to put any kind of chain or fetter on any creative expression in this world. But so long as we have censorship in other countries—and every country in the world has it, in some countries it is more and in some others it is less—I do not see that this medium of mass communication—I call drama a medium of mass communication—should not have some kind of censorship, if I can use that word. If we have censorship for the cinema, if we have censorship so far as books are concerned, if we have censorship so far as despatches are concerned, I do not find any reason why we should not have censorship here also.

I am sure at least of one thing about this Bill of my hon. friend Shri V. P. Nayar. I was saying that I could understand the good intentions of the framer of this Bill. But I would say that this Bill, whether it is in its present form or in an amended form, is going to produce results which would be directly opposite to those which he wants to achieve. I know our Government are amending so many old Bills, and I know that they are trying to give a new shape to some of the old ideas and all that kind of thing.

I would, therefore, agree with him in this respect, that this question may

be gone into and something may be done to take away any obnoxious provision that is there in the Dramatic Performances Act. But the way, the approach of Shri V. P. Nayar is, I would say,....

Shri V. P. Nayar: Beyond reproach.

Shri D. C. Sharma:much more dangerous to the development of drama, much more harmful than perhaps the approach of those persons. After all, in free India, we cannot ban jattras and performances of a like nature at religious festivals. I do not know what kind of approach this is, that those things which have been giving clean entertainment for generations to our people should be banned.

I would, therefore, make an appeal to my hon. friend, Shri V. P. Nayar, who is a very studious student of our life, who applies his mind a great deal to the problems that come up before us; if Shri Datar is his good friend, I am also his good friend; so I would appeal to him as a good friend that he should withdraw this Bill, and that he should try to think of some other way of achieving those desired objectives to which he gave expression in the preamble of his speech.

Shri Easwara Iyer (Trivandrum): In rising in support of the Bill, I also share the view of my hon. friend, Shri V. P. Nayar, that the Dramatic Performances Act must be taken out of our statute-book. But I may not be able to tear off the pages of the statute-book, and no useful purpose will be served thereby. Therefore, I can only implore the hon. Minister and Government, as at present constituted, to see the reason behind the arguments advanced by my hon. friend and bring forward immediately proper amending legislation for taking away this hated enactment.

I cannot profess myself to be a student of art or culture, being a sort of a prosaic lawyer and a little bit of a politician. It has been said by a cynic

[Shri Easwara Iyer]
that politics and art may not go together, but the cynic repeated himself by saying that politics without art is like man and wife apart. So every politician must have some sort of art.

Shri Hem Barua: And wife also!

Shri Easwara Iyer: I leave it to my hon. friend.

My hon. friend, Shri V. P. Nayar, has considerable experience in the stage also, though I too could claim a part in the stage once, though it was not the part of a beautiful damsel.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That was left to Shri V. P. Nayar alone!

Shri Easwara Iyer: Speaking about Indian drama, it has got an independent origin. So far as that is concerned, I can say without fear of contradiction from my hon. friend, Shri D. C. Sharma, who seems to be an expert on the subject, that it has got an independent origin. If Kalidasa's dramas are recognised to be a masterpiece of his literary excellence and poetic beauty, we have come to the 20th century when we have dramas of the western kind, dramas which are

comedies abounding in cynical chapters and realistic cocktails and cigarettes. If that is so, the Indian drama, as early as the 19th century, as has been vehemently argued by my friend, Shri Nayar, has been used as a powerful medium for expression of socialistic needs and purposes of society, and not merely, as my hon. friend, Shri D. C. Sharma would say, as an idle medium of entertainment. It has got its value. The Indian drama had its value. I do not say that the western drama had not also its value. Probably in the 19th century, when Ibsen's rebellious wife, Nora banged the door and walked out, the echo of that banging was heard by all the countries in the western world. That was a case where the powerful influence of Ibsen and the realistic drama was felt in the western countries.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Would the hon. Member like to continue?

Shri Easwara Iyer: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then the House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 o'clock on Monday.

17:31 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 7th April, 1958.

Saturday, 5th April, 1938]

Subject	COLUMNS	Subject	COLUMNS
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS		WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
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1456 Hindi in Railways	8273—75	2014 Shipping Accident	8316—17
1457 Transport System in Assam	8275—76	2015 Ships Surveyors	8317
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1459 Procurement of Rice and Paddy in West Bengal	8278—79	2017 Restaurants on S.E. Railway	8318
1461 Rail-Sea Co-ordination	8279—81	2018 Loan to Assam for Procurement Scheme	8318—19
1462 Movement of Orissa Iron Ore	8282—83	2019 Roads in Himachal Pradesh	8319—20
1465 Indamer Company	8284—86	2020 Employment of Landless Labourers in Bihar	8320
1466 Death of Student Pilot Saxena	8286	2021 Construction of P & T Building in Sambalpur	8321
1467 Damodar Valley Corporation	8287—88	2022 Railway Schools in South Eastern Railway	8321—22
1468 Exhibition of Films at Railway Stations	8288—90	2023 Traffic Apprentices on Railways	8322—24
1469 Electric Coaches	829	2024 Kharagpur Railway Workshop	8324
1471 Manufacture of Electric Railway Coaches	8291—92	2025 Fruit Production in U.P.	8324—25
1472 Punctuality of Trains on Eastern Railway	8293—96	2026 Tube-wells in Delhi	8325—26
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1477 Starvation Deaths in Bihar	8302—04	2030 Training of Dais	8327—28
1484 Timber	8304	2031 Import of Foodgrains	8327
1483 Murder of R.M.S. staff in Train	8305—08	2032 Fisheries Department, Himachal Pradesh	8327—28
1480 Terminal Building at Palam Aerodrome	8309—10	2033 National Construction Corporation	8329
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1460 Rates for Press Cabies	8310—11	2036 Overbridge at Level-crossing, Ludhiana	8332
1463 Movement of Jute from Agartala	8311—12	2037 Rice Purchase Scheme in Orissa	8332—33
1464 Settlement Operations in Manipur	8312	2038 Rural Water Supply Schemes in Punjab	8333—34
1470 Shifting of Dhanushkodi Pier	8312	2039 Treatment of Asthma	8334
1473 Import of Parts for Shipbuilding	8313	2040 Crime on Railways	8334—35
1478 Fair Price Shops in Bihar	8314	2041 Registered Vehicles and Motor Cycles	8335—36
1479 Survey of Leprosy in Tripura	8314	2042 Freight Earnings of Indian Shipping	8335
1481 Development of Airports for Jet Aircraft Operation	8314—15	2043 Recruitment to Gazetted Posts on Railways	8335—37
1482 Grievances of Railwaymen	8315	2044 Road Transport in Tripura	8337
1485 Rice Mills in Andhra Pradesh	8315—16	2045 Development of Roads in Madras	8337—38
		2046 Poultry Development in Madras	8338
		2047 Soil Conservation Scheme in Madras State	8338—40

Subject	ANSWERS	COLUMNS
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U.S.O. No.		
2048 Andhra Pradesh Road Transport Corporation .	8340—41	
2049 Inland Water Transport Committee .	8341	
2050 Platform on Kundwadi Station .	8342	
2051 P. & T. Offices in Dharwar District (Mysore State)	8342—43	
2052 Cooperative Farming .	8343—44	
2053 T.B. Sanatoria in India .	8344	
2054 Irrigation and Power Projects in Mysore State .	8344—45	
2055 Community Development Blocks in Punjab .	8345—46	
2056 Recruitment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on Western Railway .	8346	
2057 Transport Permits for Harijans .	8347	
2058 Integral Coach Factory Perambur .	8347—48	
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2060 Railway Schools, Northern Railway .	8348—49	
2061 Sugar .	8349	
2062 Quarters of P&T Employees in Jullundur Division .	8349	
2063 Poultry Development in Manipur .	8349—50	
2064 Tractors .	8350—51	
2065 Multi-purpose Projects in Himachal Pradesh .	8351	
2066 Preservation of Wild Life in Mysore .	8351—52	
2067 Opening of Post Offices in Mysore .	8352	
2068 Welfare Inspectors on Railways .	8352—53	
2069 Railway Schools .	8353—54	
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE .	8354	

A copy of each of the following Notifications, making certain amendments to the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporation Rules, 1956, was laid on the Table Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations Act, 1956:—

- (1) S.R.O. No. 1800, dated the 1st June, 1957
- (2) S.R.O. No. 1801, dated the 1st June, 1957
- (3) S.R.O. No. 4172, dated the 28th December, 1957
- (4) S.R.O. No. 472, dated the 8th February, 1958

Subject	COLUMNS
CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE	8354—56
Shri M. Elias called the attention of the Minister of Health to the out-break of small-pox in an epidemic form in the Bokharo Coalfields.	
The Minister of Health made a statement in regard thereto.	
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS	8356—8431
Discussion on Demands for Grants Nos. 6, 7, and 197 for which the Ministry of Community Development is responsible, concluded. All the cut motions moved on 3rd April, 1958, were negatived.	
PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS INTRODUCED	8431—32
(1) The Indian Contract (Amendment) Bill, 1958, (Amendment of sections 69 and 129) by Shri Satis Chandra Samanta.	
(2) The All India Maternity Benefit Bill, 1958, by Shrimati Renu Chakravarty.	
(3) The Untouchability (Offences) Amendment Bill, 1958, (Amendment of Sections 3 and 4) by Shri S.M. Siddiah.	
(4) The Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1958, (Amendment of sections 497 and 498) by Shri Subiman Ghose.	
PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL NEGATIVED	8433—72
The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (Omission of section 144) by Shri Jagdish Awasthi	
Further discussion on the motion for consideration of the Bill moved by Shri Jagdish Awasthi on the 21st March, 1958, continued .	
The following members took part in the debate :—	
(1) Shri Bibhuti Bhushan Das Gupta .	
(2) Shri Raghubir Sahai .	
(3) Shri Braj Raj Singh .	
(4) Shri B.N. Datar .	

Subject
PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL
NEGATIVED—*Contd.*

COLUMNS

Shri Jagdish Awasthi replied to the debate. On the motion for consideration the House divided, Ayes 35; Noes 88. The motion was accordingly negatived.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL
UNDER CONSIDERATION 8473—96

The Dramatic Performances (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (Amendment of sections 3 and 7 substitution of sections 8 and 12) by Shri V. P. Nayar.

Subject
PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL
UNDER CONSIDERATION—*contd.*

Col. 18502

The motion for consideration of the Bill was moved by Shri V. P. Nayar.

The following members took part in the Debate :—

(1) Shri Diwan Chand Sharma

(2) Shri S. Baswara Iyer (Speech Unfinished)

AGENDA FOR MONDAY,
THE 7TH APRIL, 1958.

Further discussion and voting on Demands for Grants in respects of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.